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Woman could barely walk after domestic violence. PAGE 5

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Fernandez offered post as NMC prexy

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

» Former Guam senator fired by college in 2010

The Board of Regents of the Northern Marianas College is offering the position of president to Dr. Carmen Fernandez, who was fired by the same college in 2010 for the unauthorized changing of students' grades.

During a break in a special board meeting last Sept. 30 at NMC's As Terlaje campus, NMC interim president David Attao confirmed that Fernandez would be offered the position as NMC president, succeeding Dr. Sharon Hart, who went on an extended leave until the end of her contract.

"Through the interior selection process, the presidential search committee came up [with] two candidates, and are making an offer to Dr. Carmen Fernandez, former president of NMC," said Attao.

Should the offer for president of NMC be accepted, At-

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Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao sits across NMC Board of Regents chair Frank Rabauliman while discussing matters prior to the executive session at the NMC campus last Sept. 30.

Pros, cons of .50-cent wage hike

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI minimum wage increased by 0.50 cents last Friday, a federally mandated law that aims to have it at the same level in the United States of $7.25 in 2018. The minimum hourly rate is now $6.55 from $6.05, with another 0.50-cent increase expected next year and 0.20 cents in 2018.

This is the seventh increase since 2007 when a Democratic majority-led U.S. Congress passed the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 that increased the CNMI minimum wage from $3.05 to $3.55. The CNMI Department of Labor's website also posted a reminder to all employers of the wage increase.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan

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Mistrial declared in Koshiba case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» Ex-firefighter found guilty of disturbing the peace

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo declared Friday a mistrial in the case of former firefighter Jergerson Techur Koshiba,who is facing a charge of second degree sexual abuse of a minor.

Govendo, however, found the 42-year-old Koshiba guilty of disturbing the peace. The judge decided the misdemeanor charge.

Govendo said he will give Koshiba credit for time served and will place him on probation for one year. Koshiba has already

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Naraja: Many letters plead for Calvo's lenient sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Judge says defendant's behavior unfathomable; to this date expressed no remorse
» Victim suffers nightmares, trouble sleeping, loss of appetite

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has disclosed that he has received many letters from supporters of convicted child molester Patrick M. Calvo in which they pleaded for a lenient sentence.

"It is evident from these letters that Calvo is viewed by some as an upstanding member of society," said Naraja in his written sentencing order last Wednesday. He did not name Calvo's supporters.

Calvo, 54, used to be president of the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Naraja said these letters also provide a basis that Calvo may be rehabilitated, based upon the presence of community support, stemming in part from his prior

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A 6-year-old boy who was critically wounded in a school shooting has died.
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Local

Torres signs judicial building fund, fire lanes bills

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed two House bills last week, one that would authorize the CNMI government to enter into a loan agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Program.

Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) introduced HB 19-126, which is now Public Law 19-67, while Senate vice president Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) authored Senate Bill 19-107 that would establish designated fire lanes in the CNMI.

PL 19-67 authorizes the CNMI government to loan from the USDA a sum that would not exceed $15 million, to pay off about $4.5 million on the Guma Hustisia mortgage with the Retirement Settlement Fund. The loan has already matured but they have not yet fully paid the amount.

The CNMI government, under the current terms of the mortgage, should pay $120,000 per month. The Judiciary collects court fees and fines amounting from $50,000 to $60,000 a month, which partially pays their debt to the Settlement Fund.

"In order to account for the difference between the amount due and the Judiciary's collections, however, the mortgage provides that any shortfall be paid from the General Fund, which places a significant burden on the Commonwealth's limited resources," according to PL 19-67.

Torres said the money would be divided among the Judiciary, the Attorney General's Office, and the Office of the Public Defender.

"The loan agreement with the USDA would help in the repayment of the Settlement Fund. It would also provide the necessary funding for the renovation of the courts with the portion also going to the AG and the Public Defender," said Torres.

"It is important that all agencies under the Judiciary will have their facilities renovated. We'll meet the needs of the departments as we grow and alleviate the pending settlement of $4.5 million. It would write that off from settlement fund as liability," Torres added.

Chief Justice Alexandro Castro said the USDA money would be used by CNMI courts not just to pay off the Settlement Fund. "We're also going to renovate the courthouses on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

"This is only the second time that all three branches of government have been together. The first one was during the signing of the drug court bill [PL 19-14]. We may agree to disagree, but if we work together we can accomplish a lot," added Castro.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) said the House has been the Judiciary's top ally. "On behalf of the House of Representatives, thank you, governor, for expediting this bill introduced by Rep. Tony Sablan. I would like to say to the chief justice that the House is your friend in the Legislature."

Senate floor leader Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota) lauded Associate Judge Theresa Kim-Tenorio's presentation to the USDA members when they were trying to find available funds. "On behalf of the [Senate] President and all the members, the Legislature supports the chief justice's plans."

Kim-Tenorio, associate justices John Manglona and Perry Inos, Presiding Judge Robert A. Naraja, Attorney General Edward Manibusan, CNMI Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig, Sens. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian), and Reps. Edwin P. Aldan (Ind-Tinian), BJ Attao (Ind-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), and Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) also witnessed the signing.

Fire lanes in the CNMI

Torres also signed Palacios' Fire Lanes bill that became PL 19-69. It was signed last Wednesday coinciding with the signing of the budget bill and three proclamations at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center.

PL 19-69 aims to have vehicles, ambulances and fire trucks have unobstructed access to buildings and other facilities in times of emergency. "Any obstruction can delay or even prevent adequate emergency operations from proceeding," wrote Palacios in his bill.

"The delay could cost someone's life. Fire equipment and other emergency vehicles may be required to pass one another when a fire engine is parked or hooked up to a fire hydrant. This may be to respond to the scene at hand or exit the site to respond to another emergency."

Suspected 'ice' trafficker pleads guilty to meth possession

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Suspected methamphetamine or "ice" trafficker Rui Wei Huang pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a controlled substance on Thursday in the Superior Court. He will be sentenced on Feb. 8, 2017.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho vacated the bench trial currently set for Nov. 14, 2016, and granted Huang's request for a presentence investigation report.

After the hearing, Huang, 41, also known as JCC Brother and No No, was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections.

According to court documents, Huang had crystal methamphetamine on May 4, 2016, on Saipan.

Last June, the Office of the Attorney General charged him with two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance and three counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance. If he had gone to trial and is convicted of all charges, he faced a possible maximum sentence of 65 years in prison.

Last Sept. 12, the OAG removed two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance and two counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance. That left Huang with only one count of illegal possession of a controlled substance, which carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison.

Camacho noted that Huang has no prior conviction.

Last June, members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force arrested Huang for allegedly selling "ice" on Saipan.

DETF officer Rudolph C. Sablan Jr. stated in his report that their "cooperating source" managed to buy $340 worth of "ice" from Huang inside a car in the parking lot of JCC Laundromat in Garapan last May 4.

Sablan said the same "cooperating source" purchased $120 worth of "ice" from Huang during the second buy-walk operation at the same location.

A DETF officer tested the 1.13 grams of substance involved in the first deal and the 0.9 grams in the second transaction and both were presumptive positive for methamphetamine.

Guam port tightens eyes on cargo moving through port

APRA HARBOR, Guam— A multi-agency strike force operation was conducted at the Port of Guam on Sept. 27 and 28, 2016. The MASFO was conducted in an effort to enhance the safe movement of cargo while deterring and detecting contraband moving through the port.

The operation brought together 11 regulatory and law enforcement agencies that included the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Services, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Guam Customs and Quarantine, Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation, Guam Police Department, Port Authority of Guam's Port Police and Safety division, and Homeland Security Investigations.

Off site assistance was offered by the Department of Public Works, Air Force Weather Squadron 36 OSS/OSW, Federal Bureau of Investigations, and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

A total of 74 agents, officers, and inspectors participated in this enforcement operation, totaling 674 man hours.

The operation resulted in 38 containerized cargo inspections, 38 vehicle inspections, and 13 13 canine explosive inspections.

USCG

The primary objective of the MASFO was to ensure compliance with federal and territorial regulations pertaining to the safe shipment of cargo. The MASFO was composed of two inspection teams located at the Port of Guam at the weigh station and inbound holding area on Route 11 that screened both inbound and outbound cargo. Leveraging the jurisdictional authorities of each agency, the inter-agency teams inspected freight containers and vehicles ensuring compliance with international and domestic regulatory codes as well as Guam Custom and territorial regulations.

The operation resulted in 38 containerized cargo inspections, 38 vehicle inspections, and 13 Transportation Worker Identification Credentials checks, 13 canine explosive inspections, 13 USDA brown tree snake inspections and 35 Customs canine narcotic sweeps, resulting in a detention of one container and seven total deficiencies. ***(USCG)***

Chamber, ITS present sales, networking seminar

With the holidays right around the corner, there is no better time to give your employees the gift that keeps on giving: training that will provide them with the tools to take their skills to the next level which will better your business' overall performance.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Island Training Solutions proudly present "Sales and Networking," a two-part training seminar that is guaranteed to motivate your employees while preparing for the holiday rush.

In Part 1 of this course, participants will learn how to upsell, cross-sell, and suggestive sell. These are essential practices that successful retail businesses use in their establishments. Participants will also learn how to have meaningful conversations, learn to ask key questions that engage, and be able to model appropriate gestures to provide a meaningful experience to retain and grow client relationships. Part 2 will teach participants the importance of networking in and outside the workplace. Every business' greatest tool is their employee! Whether an accountant, receptionist, or phone operator, every employee is in "sales" and is essential in relaying your company's brand, product, or service to prospects and customers.

The "Sales and Networking" trainings will take place at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce conference room on the third floor of Marianas Business Plaza, Suite #315. Part One is set for Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016, and Part Two is set for Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016. Each course is $45 per person for members and $50 per person for non-members. Sign up for both courses and get the price of $80 (member fee) or $90 (non-member fee).

Participants will walk away with knowledge and tools that can be implemented this holiday season and in the new year. There is no better time than now to invest in your employees! Take advantage of our special offer by signing up for both courses. Seats are limited. For more information or to register, call (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. ***(SCC)***

OAG: District court upholds major portions of SAFE

NMI District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has issued her decision and order concerning the Commonwealth's Special Act for Fire Arms Enforcement in the *Murphy v. Guerrero* case.

"The Office of the Attorney General is pleased to have succeeded on the most important provisions of the Special Act for Fire Arms Enforcement ("SAFE")," said Attorney General Edward Manibusan. "My office will continue to address the outstanding legal issues through legislation."

According to the attorney general, draft legislation will be finalized to address the outstanding issues in a manner that provides the maximum protection for the community and manner consistent with the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

The court's decision will affect the people of the Commonwealth. It struck down the provision of the law requiring the transportation of unloaded firearms.

"In the court's decision, individuals are now able to carry loaded handguns in public as long as they comply with other areas of Commonwealth law such as Gun-Free Zones. Second, individuals will now be able to own and possess rifles in calibers greater than .223 and shotguns in gauges greater than .410," stated assistant attorney general Charles Brasington, who represented the Commonwealth in the suit.

He further stated, "Individuals will also be able to own semiautomatic rifles with certain attachments in calibers greater than .223."

Manibusan stated that "the issue that will no doubt raise the most concern is the fact that the court's holding that it is unconstitutional to completely ban individuals from carrying loaded handguns in public."

Anticipating such a holding, the attorney general said that his office has already prepared legislation that will regulate the carrying of firearms in public to guarantee the safety of the community in a manner that is consistent with the United States and Commonwealth Constitutions.

This legislation will be submitted to the legislature for its consideration. Manibusan also stated that, "the other issues raised by the court are addressed in the Second Special Act for Firearms Enforcement ("SAFE II"), which has already been submitted to the legislature for action." "We urge the Legislature to act expeditiously to ensure that proper and enforceable gun controls in the Commonwealth," the attorney general stated.

The federal court found the following provisions to be constitutional: (1) requiring individuals to obtain a firearm license before being allowed to possess a firearm; (2) requiring the firearms kept in the home to be either "in a locked container or disabled with a trigger lock" or "carried on the person of an individual over the age of 21"; (3) outlawing magazines designed to accept more than 10 rounds of ammunition; (4) outlawing grenade launchers; (5) temporarily seizing firearms brought into the Commonwealth until the owner is not yet licensed to possess a firearm in the Commonwealth. The federal court found the following provisions to be unconstitutional: (1) the current law regarding the registration of firearms, which prevents an individual from taking possession of a new firearm for over two months; (2) the ban on rifle caliber above .223 and the restriction of shotgun gauge to .410; (3) the ban on certain assault weapon attachments to semiautomatic rifles; (4) the complete ban on carrying a loaded handgun in public; (5) temporarily seizing firearms brought into the Commonwealth until the firearms are registered under the current registration system; and (6) the $1,000 excise tax on handguns. ***(PR)***

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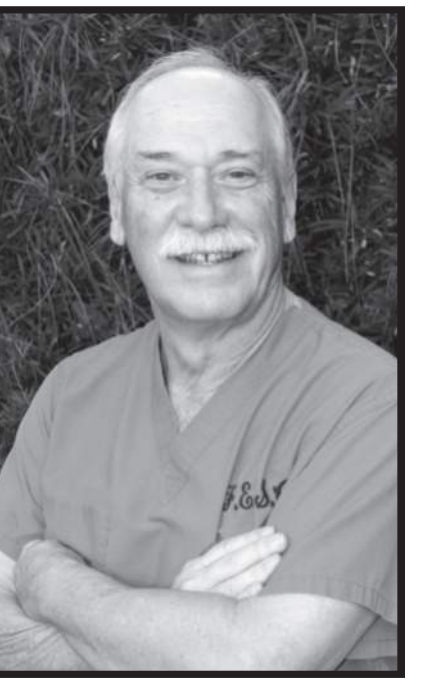

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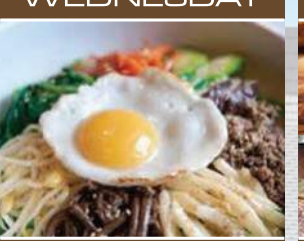
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NARAJA

From Page 1

civic contributions.

Naraja said he considers both these factors as evidence for mitigation.

At the resentencing hearing last Wednesday, the judge imposed a seven-year prison term on Calvo. The original sentence that Naraja handed down in May 2010 was eight years imprisonment.

Naraja resentenced Calvo to eight years in prison for sexual assault in the second degree, eight years in prison for sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, five years in prison for sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree, and six months in prison for disturbing the peace.

Naraja merged the sentences into a single sentence. Naraja said to the extent that one offense is not a lesser-included offense of the other, those sentences are to run concurrently with the sentence of sexual assault in the second degree, of eight years.

In total, the judge said, Calvo is sentenced to a term of eight years, all suspended except for seven years.

Without a revocation of his probation, Calvo shall serve seven years in prison, with credit of three days of time already served.

Calvo's jail term is considered commenced as of May 25, 2010.

Accordingly, the judge said, the defendant shall be released from the Department of Corrections no later than May 25, 2017.

After completing the prison term, Calvo will be placed on probation for seven years.

On restitution, Naraja ordered Calvo to pay for the victim's treatment for the remainder of his sentence, including during the pendency of his probation.

He ordered the government to submit before April 28, 2017, a restitution request, including past billings for the victim's medical and psychological treatment that took place on or before March 28, 2017.

Naraja said Calvo may file a motion to modify his probation period or probation conditions, but any such motion must initially be submitted under seal and accompanied by a medical specialist's report that explains the most current results of Calvo's sex offender assessment and progress on sex offender treatment, which may include behavioral modification therapy.

Naraja required Calvo to, among other things, seek a clinical psychiatric evaluation treatment, register as a sex offender, perform 1,500 hours of community work service, and submit to HIV testing.

Calvo may receive continued assessment and treatment from Dr. Irshaad Shaffeeullah, a psychiatrist at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., while he is in its custody and upon his release from DOC.

Calvo is restricted from jobs involving direct contact with minors or those under the age of 18 years old.

Unless with the supervision of a third-party, he is prohibited from initiating contact or approaching minors.

At the resentencing, Naraja acknowledged that Calvo has become involved in different programs during his time at DOC.

This involvement, the judge noted, includes providing education assistance to other inmates and has helped develop and implement training project for other inmates.

Naraja said it is clear from the letters provided as part of Calvo's presentence investigation report that he has made a conscious effort to become a productive member of society during the course of his incarceration.

Naraja said Calvo has taken this opportunity to better himself and the lives of his fellow inmates.

Naraja said Calvo has also testified before the court as to his contributions to DOC and his fellow inmates by writing grants for federal funding projects.

The judge, however, also noted that Calvo has not, to this date, expressed remorse for the possibility of inflicting lifelong pain and trauma on the victim.

In fact, Naraja said, additional evidence submitted by Calvo does not reassure this court that he will ever be remorseful, unless Calvo goes through sustained counseling and behavioral management therapy.

Accordingly, Naraja said, he does not take into account Calvo's remorsefulness as a mitigating factor.

With respect to aggravating factors in this case, Naraja said that Calvo was convicted of sexually assaulting a minor, who was only 13 years old at the time.

Naraja said the adverse psychological and emotional effects of this assault will most likely be with the victim for the rest of her life.

Naraja said the victim suffered nightmares, trouble sleeping, and a loss of appetite.

"Calvo's behavior is unfathomable and the court views this blatant violation of trust as a serious stain on Calvo's character," the judge said.

Naraja said the criminal justice system alone is not capable of healing the wounds wrought from this very deepest betrayal of trust—by any measure of punishment.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

ERRATUM

In the Sept. 27 story "No limit for junket operators" it was written that Commonwealth Casino Commissioner executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said junket operator applicants would undergo credit, role, wealth, and delegation checks. It was supposed to be "credit checks, world wealth checks, and litigation checks." We are sorry for the mix up.

WAGE

From Page 1

(R-Saipan), however, has a pending bill in the CNMI Legislature that aims to bypass the annual 0.50-cent increases. House bill 19-23 aims to increase the Commonwealth minimum wage from $6.05 to the national level of $7.25 at once.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said he's waiting for the House and Senate to pass Demapan's minimum wage bill and wants to sign it right away. HB 19-23 is currently in the House Ways and Means Committee chaired by Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Employers like Lito Mendoza and Ms. Xu said they would follow what the law says. Other business owners and managers asked by the *Saipan Tribune* to comment on the minimum wage hike declined to do so, as well as a number of employees that are mostly working as commercial cleaners, store clerks, and construction workers.

There are also unconfirmed reports that some business establishments would either cut the working hours of their employees or would no longer allow them to work overtime.

"We'll just follow what the law says, because it's the law," said a visibly annoyed Xu, a grocery store owner, when asked by the *Saipan Tribune.*

Mendoza, on the other hand, said that although it would be a bit difficult for other companies, the current economic climate sees fit for an increase. "The economic situation now is a lot different a few years ago. It is a bit difficult for some businesses but there's a law that we need to follow."

Mendoza, an architecture graduate from the Far Eastern University in the Philippines, owns landscaping firm Tropex Garden that worked on several projects like the Oleai football field and Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Their latest landscaping project is the conversion of the Puerto Rico Dump into a park.

He said they'd pass on their workers' salaries on every project that they bid on, whether government or private projects. "What we would do now is to also adjust the amount of our bids since we have to include our workers' salaries."

"We anticipated the minimum wage issue here at Tropex Garden since we know that it would increase. Labor costs will also now be inserted to project proposals that we're going to submit. Whether it is a government contract or a private firm," added Mendoza, who arrived in the CNMI in 1975.

Sophia Bontijao, who has been on Saipan for 25 years as a supervisor in several garment companies, welcomed the minimum wage hike but added that prices of basic goods have started to also rise.

"As a contract worker, we welcome the increase. It is okay and timely. But the prices of commodities will also increase so it looks like it is also not enough. It would be nice if the minimum wage increases but the prices would remain steady," said Bontijao. "It would be okay for minimum wage earners if prices of basic goods would only gradually increase."

Mami Ikeda, an active community volunteer, said it is just fair for the minimum wage to increase to $6.55, with some employers already paying their workers higher wages. "Foreign workers have been taken advantage of for too long."

"I think that minimum wage could go as high as people wishes to, people just have to be ready for hikes on retail prices, service/labor fees, everything you buy or hire."

NMC

From Page 1

tao would be reverting back to his former position of dean of Administration and Resource Development.

In June 2011, Fernandez filed a lawsuit against the college and four members of its board in relation to her termination in April 2010.

Fernandez earlier sued NMC and some regents at the district court but all six charges were dismissed in May 2011.

Attao said he is excited to be working with Fernandez once again. "I am very excited to help the new president come in and transition, so we're going to give [her] the updates on what our strategic plan is, and how we've been planning to execute that, as well as financial information, accreditation information that needs to be addressed in due time, and any other things," said Attao.

"The board has diligently kept me here as interim president, but transitioning between me and the new president is very important, not only for the college's stability but also for keeping the flow of getting the students to graduate and meeting their educational goals."

Attao believes the transition would not be a problem. "This is her office and she was here before, so she would know the culture and behavior they are expecting. It shouldn't be a difficult transition."

Despite being distant from the selection process, Attao thinks there are certain qualities and characteristics that should be present in the selection of a president to improve, if not maintain the current state of NMC and the community.

"I want a good leader that can help us with this process, help the college grow, help our community, and of course, help the students," said Attao. "We try our best as a team here to keep the college stable and meet all the standards and accreditations, and everything we need to do. There are things that still need to be done, but that goes for any institution. In quality management you want to continuously have change, and I don't think this should be a major issue."

Attao also asks for the consideration of the community as NMC straightens a few things out.

"I want to ask the community for their patience and thank them for their understanding, and also to ask the college community to help the college and help the new president with the future of our community college. We want to ask them to be open, with an understanding and hopefully we could all work together as a team."

MISTRIAL

From Page 1

spent more than six months in jail, which is the maximum sentence for disturbing the peace.

Govendo declared the mistrial after the six jurors remained deadlocked or could not reach a unanimous verdict.

The judge said he will set a new trial date once the government files a new case against Koshiba. He ordered the parties to appear on Monday.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub, counsel for the government, said she will file a new case against Koshiba on Monday.

Defense attorney Joaquin Torres said his client should walk free now because the court has no more jurisdiction.

Govendo ordered Torres to file the paperwork.

"Put together all your arguments as to why the defendant should be free," the judge told Torres.

The six jurors started deliberating for a half a day on Thursday. They resumed deliberations the whole day Friday.

Govendo called the jurors and the lawyers shortly before 5pm Friday after receiving a note from the jury that they were deadlocked.

Govendo asked each juror if there is reasonable probability for them to reach a unanimous verdict if he sends them back. Only one juror replied it is possible. Another juror said they tried twice already, but they came out with the same result.

Three jurors said they would reach the same decision if asked to further deliberate.

The sixth juror said it would be difficult to reach a unanimous verdict so they will still be deadlocked.

This prompted Govendo to declare a mistrial and dismissed the jurors.

As to the misdemeanor charge of disturbing the peace, Govendo said he would like to weigh it a while. He asked Torres if he wants to argue that day or wait for next week.

Torres replied that they want a ruling that day.

After listening to the parties' brief arguments, Govendo said that based on the evidence and the girl's testimony, the defendant is guilty of disturbing the peace.

The judge said he is going to give the government two weeks to file a new case if it wants to.

Torres objected, saying the court has no more jurisdiction as the case is already dismissed.

Govendo said Torres brings up a point that at this moment Koshiba has no charge.

Govendo said the bail is $50,250 and that's the reason why Koshiba is still in jail.

Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley, who is assisting Weintraub, asserted that the court only declared a mistrial but overall the charge is still pending.

Torres said as there is no charge now, the court has no jurisdiction and that his client should be released from prison.

Govendo said he is going to continue on Monday for Torres to file the paperwork as to why Koshiba should be a free man now.

Koshiba was accused of sexually abusing a 9-year-old girl on Navy Hill last Feb. 26.

The trial began last Monday.

Banned pesticides intercepted

BECQ Pesticide Branch and the Division of Customs Airport continue to work together to prevent the importation of illegal pesticide in the CNMI.

On Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016, customs airport officers intercepted a total of 36 individual boxes of illegal insecticides from three construction workers on an Asiana Airlines flight from China. The individuals were contract workers under the employment of a construction company.

The products included eight different brands of mosquito coils bearing Chinese labeling and no EPA establishment number indicating that the products were not manufactured in an U.S. EPA registered establishment.

Through the new amended contraband law (Public Law 19-54) violators may be criminally charged for the importation of pesticides determined to be contrabands as defined by law. ***(Office of the Governor)***

Woman could barely walk after domestic violence

A woman sustained several injuries and could barely walk after her boyfriend allegedly beat her up during an argument at his residence in Kannat Tabla last week.

The woman had bruises on her thighs, left side of her face, and outer and inner forearms. Her nose and right wrist were slightly swollen. She had a hard time walking and standing due to pain on the lower left side of her back, police said.

Jiro Kazuo Sablan Takai, 23, was arrested and taken to the Superior Court on Thursday on charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace. He faces a $5,000 cash bail. Preliminary hearing is on Oct. 5 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit was appointed as counsel for Takai. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police detective John Anthony Hofschneider stated in his report that a police officer was dispatched on Tuesday night to the RJ Building in Dandan where the mother of the victim called for police's help.

During an interview, the victim told the officer that she was at the residence of Takai in Kannat Tabla when they got into argument at about 6:30pm.

While they were in bed, Takai allegedly kicked her on the right thigh, hit her with a pillow, and punched her on the nose. Takai also allegedly grabbed her right arm and forced her to punch herself in the face.

The victim, who was then crying, asked the defendant to stop.

Takai allegedly threw the victim's clothes all over the bedroom. As she was crying, Takai slapped her face several times. She grabbed her purse and ran out of the house and proceeded to RJ Building, where she called her mother on the phone.

At 7:27pm police arrested Takai at his house.

The victim said Takai assaulted her within the last four months, causing bruises on her body. She did not report the matter to the police. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

National speaker to address SHRM meeting on Oct. 5

The CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will be holding a membership meeting on Oct. 5, 2016, from 11:30am to 2:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's. All members of the community are invited to attend. SHRM members are urged to come out and greet our regional director.

As the local chapter of the world's largest organization for human resource practitioners, the CNMI SHRM holds monthly meetings on topics that will assist the Commonwealth's HR and management community in keeping abreast of current HR practices and employment law requirements, as well as providing them training on relevant human resource topics. The CNMI chapter has been active since 1996.

The October SHRM meeting will offer a special opportunity to the community. This month's speaker, Dianna Gould, SHRM-SCP, CAE, has over 20 years of experience in the human resource profession. Currently she is the field services director for the Pacific West Region for the Society for Human Resource Management. Prior to joining SHRM, she had experience as an HR professional with employers ranging from Fortune 500 companies to start-up firms. She has worked in the high tech, international export, manufacturing, and the service industry. Gould has been an active member with SHRM since 1991 and has served in a variety of leadership roles during that time.

Gould's topic at the October meeting will be "Effective Workplace Communication: Promoting Success through a Culture of Trust and Belief."

The program discusses how SHRM and other research studies indicate that effective workplace communication plays a key role in business success. For HR professionals, the ability to communicate effectively is a critical competency to be able to contribute to that success. In this session, you will learn the benefits of effective workplace communication, strategies for building a culture of trust and belief, the importance of effective communication as an HR competency, and the skills you need to develop to be a proficient communicator.

The attendance fee is $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-SHRM members. Please register with Penny Jones by e-mail at penny.jones@hyattsaipan.com or contact Penny or Lany by telephone at 323-5867 or 323-5867. Seats are limited, but still available.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. For more information about the NMI Chapter, you can visit their website at http://nmichapter.shrm.org. ***(SHRM)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber meeting on Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting at Charley's (Pacific Island Club) on Wednesday, Oct. 5. The luncheon will begin at 11:30am with the meeting commencing at noon. Gov. Ralph Torres is scheduled to speak regarding an update on the 902 talks and the employment issues facing the islands. Alex Sablan from TanHoldings will also speak on behalf of the Strategic Economic Development Council (SEDC) Workforce Subcommittee regarding a new nonprofit organization that is being formed to assist in consulting for passage of strategic legislation to ease the workforce issue. ***(SCC)***

Veterans History Project Community Workshops

Join the Veterans History Project and help collect the firsthand stories of Marianas veterans for preservation in the Library of Congress. Sign up for a workshop with oral historian Dr. Luisa Del Guidice to learn more about the project and build your interviewing and documentation techniques. The workshop schedule is as follows: TINIAN - Oct. 4, 10am, Tinian Public Library; ROTA - Oct. 5, 10am, Northern Marianas College Instructional Site; SAIPAN - Oct. 8, 10am, American Memorial Park Visitors Center. All workshops are free and open to the public. To register or for more information, contact the Office of Congressman Kilili at 323-2647 or email Kilili@mail.house.gov.***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-023

ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION FOR WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **September 22, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Island Wide Road Restoration for Waterline Repairs, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 12, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders.

The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **September 26, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Robert Malate, CUC Water & Wastewater Engineer, via email-robert.malate@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S Administrative Support Assistant, via email– marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (CORRECTION)
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FOR DIVERT ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES,
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Divert Activities and Exercises, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as published in the Federal Register on 26 September 2016 EDT/27 September 2016 ChST. *(The Federal Register date has been corrected; the original ad published in the Saipan Tribune on 26 September ChST noted the Federal Register publication date as 23 September 2016 EDT/24 September 2016 ChST.)* The Final EIS is available for download on the project website address listed below. Hard copies can be reviewed at the locations listed below.

The Proposed Action is to improve an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. Under this action, the USAF proposes to construct facilities and infrastructure at an existing airport or airports to support a combination of cargo, tanker, and similar aircraft and associated support personnel for divert operations, periodic exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

As stated in the Final EIS, the USAF preferred alternative is Alternative 2- Modified Tinian Alternative. In accordance with federal regulations that guide the EIS process (40 CFR 1500-1508), the USAF will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) on whether and how to implement the Proposed Action no sooner than 30 days after release of the Final EIS. A Notice of Availability for the ROD will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

The Final EIS takes into account public input and comments received on the Revised Draft EIS, which the USAF released for public review in October 2015. It analyzes potential environmental impacts of the modified alternatives which were presented in the Revised Draft EIS. The modified alternatives meet USAF operational selection standards while incorporating input received during the 2012 Draft EIS public review period.

In accordance with NEPA and the USAF regulations for implementing NEPA in 32 CFR Part 989, the USAF prepared the Final EIS and is making it available to the public. Electronic files can be downloaded from the project website address listed below. In addition, printed copies of the Final EIS will be available for review at the following locations:

Saipan: Saipan Office of the Mayor; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

Tinian: Tinian Office of the Mayor; Tinian Public Library

Documents maybe be downloaded or viewed online at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com.

Int'l education institution explores Saipan for future investment

Officials of BE Education, one of the leading international educational institutions in the UK and China, were on a recent exploration visit to Saipan.

The visit of William Vanbergen, founder and chief executive officer of BE Education and Wycombe Abbey China and San Eng, founder and managing partner of Xcelerate, a China-based company engaged in development, investment and growth of lifestyle businesses, was upon the invitation of Imperial Pacific Holdings International.

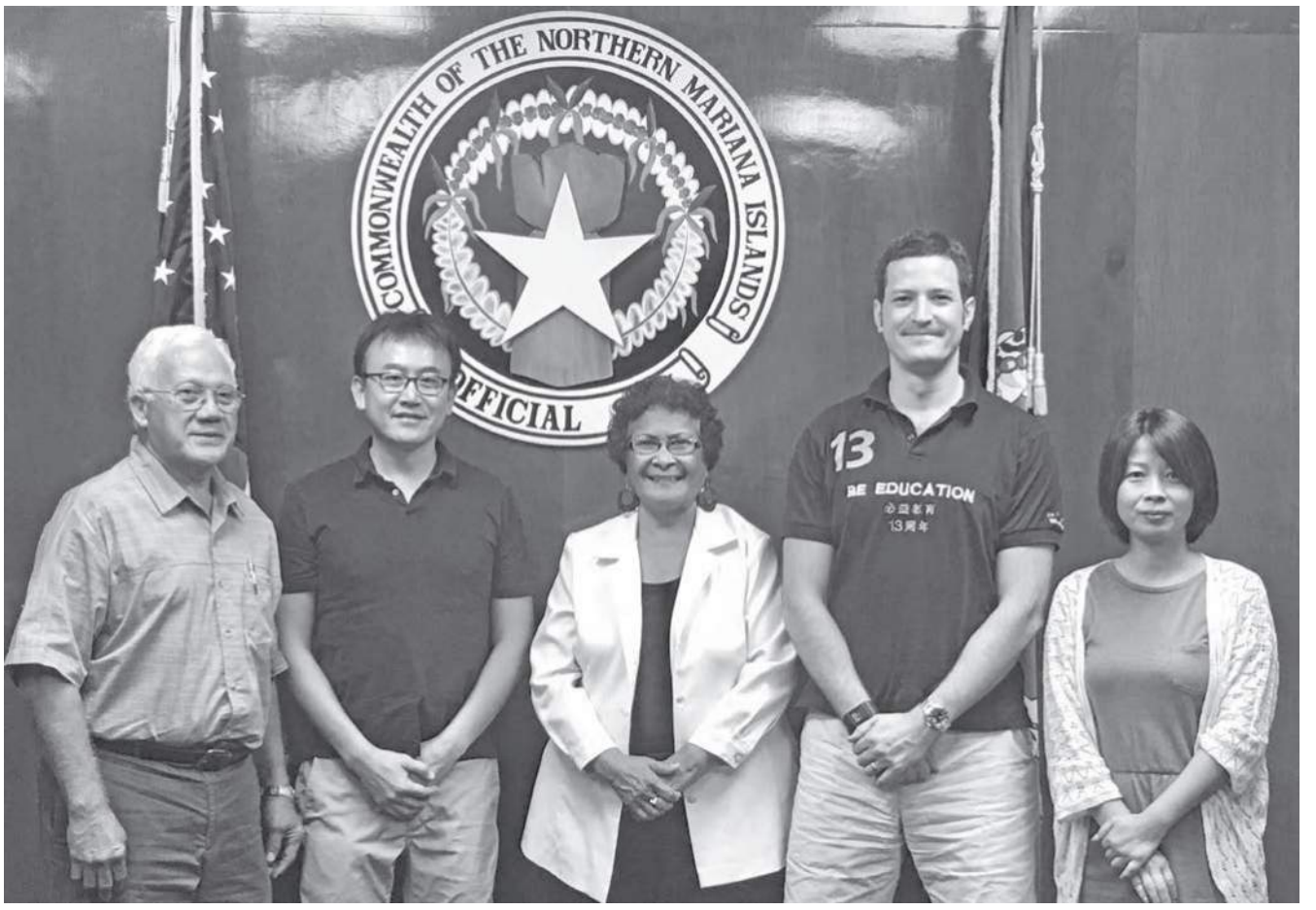
The invitation from Imperial Pacific was an opportunity for BE Education to explore the island's potential as a hub for international learning, by capitalizing on the island's advantage and proximity within the Asia and the Pacific regions.

Vanbergen and Eng were on Saipan from Sept. 28 to 30.

The visit comes on the heels of BE Education's ongoing pursuit of establishing partnership with various educational institutions across the globe, as it continually set it sights toward providing its stakeholders world-class and leading-edge educational opportunities.

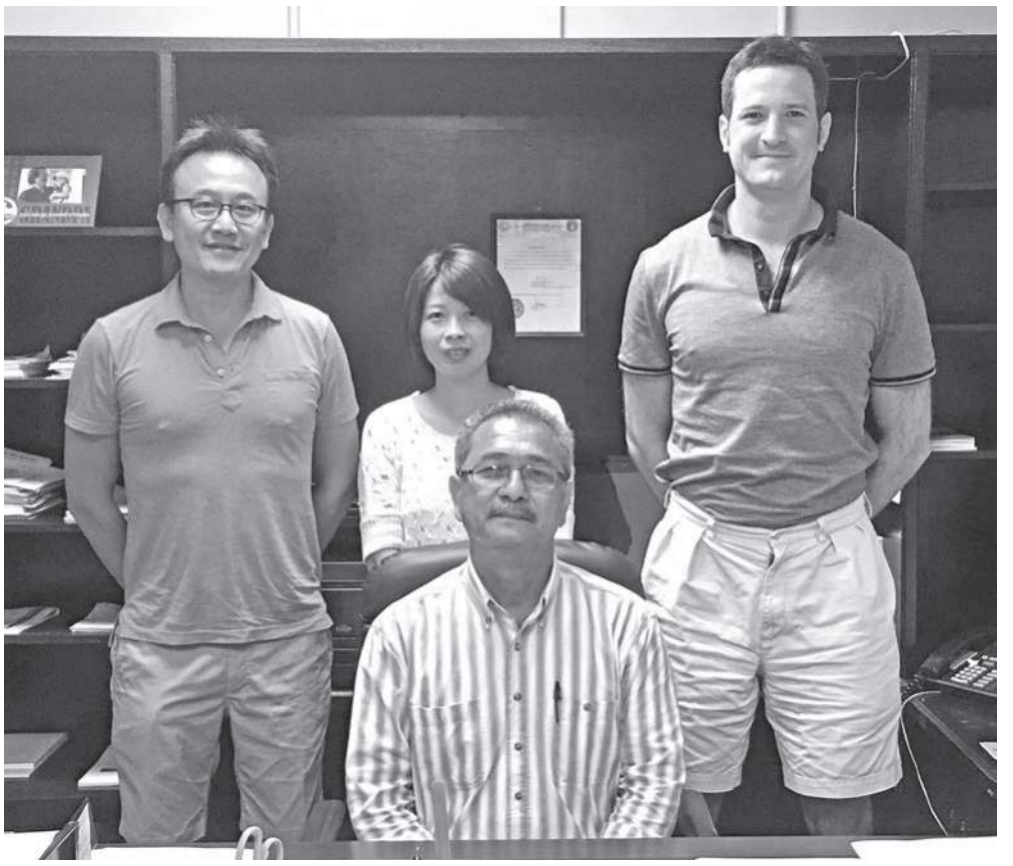
During their time spent on Saipan, Vanbergen and Eng were able to meet with leading educators and policymakers, and legislative leaders.

Onsite visits on various school campuses were also held separately.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BE Education chief executive officer William Vanbergen and Xcelerate founder and managing partner San Eng pose with House of Representatives Committee on Education chair Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro and the committee's Pedro Guerrero following the investors' visit on Saipan last week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senate Committee on Education chair Sen. Justo Quitugua received in his office visiting BE Education CEO William Vanbergen and Xcelerate founder and managing partner San Eng. The investor was also joined and Imperial Pacific Holdings International marketing manager Donghua.

Educational tourism

"We believe there could be real opportunity for the [CNMI] government to work with a top international education institution. We are here to capitalize on the wonderful environment and central Asia-Pacific location by building a world-class international school that would not only help attract top workers from overseas, but also open up a new industry in educational tourism that would bring benefits to the wider economy," said Vanbergen, citing research on how foreign students help spur economic development.

"Research from the University of Maryland has shown that not only do foreign students bring benefits to the local economy in terms of tuition but they also contribute 2-4 times of tuition each year to the host economy through other spending," Vanbergen notes.

BE Education officials' visit highlights the growing demand for smoother educational pathways to higher learning institutions overseas. Vanbergen and Eng's visit also mirrors a popular trend about parents and families who are seeking various pathways for their children to attend college overseas.

Founded in 2003, Vanbergen's BE Education offers not only high class education but also affords its students with the opportunity to be accepted into the world's leading schools and colleges through effective learning strategies. As a renowned forward thinker, Vanbergen has managed to build and develop his company into an award-winning full-range education consulting services provider.

Vanbergen is also responsible for the launch of Wycombe Abbey International Schools (WAIS) in China. WAIS is widely considered to be the best boarding school from the UK; each year, at least 50 percent of their graduates attend Oxbridge, Cambridge or an Ivy League school.

Eng is a shareholder and investor in BE Education. He is a veteran entrepreneur and investor from China and America. He has invested $500 million in cross-border projects primarily in consumer and technology spaces and his PE fund has been ranked a top 30 fund in China. Eng is also an associate professor, teaching investments at Shanghai's prestigious Jiaotong University.

Eng is particularly keen on investing and bringing to Saipan real estates linked to leisure, entertainment, education brands, and dreams of one day being a permanent resident of Saipan.

"Within a few days of meeting locals, Koreans, Japanese, Chinese, and Americans, I quickly learned the huge business potential driven by Saipan's unbeatable nature and ideal location to Asia, including tourism, and gaming. This is why we are making our third exploration trip here since July. We are looking to invest long-term projects such as real estate, entertainment concepts, healthcare, and education," Eng pointed out.

He added, "This is also why I invited Mr. Vanbergen, the CEO of BE Education and one of the portfolio companies and the folds that operate Wycombe Abbey in China. As you know, Wycombe Abbey is the number one boarding school in the UK and we see Saipan as an ideal site to launch globally a top K-12 grade school to attract local residents, future residents, and kids seeking quality education in USA from China, Japan, Korea, and rest of Asia."

Vanbergen and Eng also noted Saipan's environment would be ideal to establish an international school because of its beauty and fresh air.

"Within 10 seconds of landing on Saipan, the endless blue-toned waters and crisp fresh air left me smitten. Saipan had stolen my heart. We have been friends with executives from BSI for many years and we would like to thank them for introducing us to Saipan and their incredible hospitality," Eng said.

Vanbergen agrees. "It was a pleasure to meet so many wonderful and friendly local people in Saipan over the past three days. Best Sunshine provided us excellent coordinators. We met some wonderful educators and government officials who were all supportive of the projects. We have high hopes to be able to move forward. Our team [on] Saipan spent the next few days following up on discussions and we hope to be back soon. One again, I was impressed with the kindness and open hospitality shown to us by all the local people we met." (***PR***)

It's almost NaNoWriMo time!

Nov. 1 is the start of National Novel Writing Month! This event features hundreds of thousands of people from all around the world attempting to write 50,000 word novels in just 30 days. Everybody writes their own novels, but there is plenty of shared moral support, angst, and diversions at http://nanowrimo.com where you can sign up to join the fun.

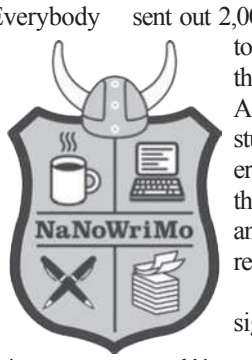


Image courtesy of National Novel Writing Month.

In 2015, 489,028 people participated, and 40,426 crossed the magic threshold of 50,000 words. Writers came from six continents, wrote in hundreds of different languages, and developed stories in every conceivable genre. The event is sponsored by the Office of Letters and Light, a non-profit started by Chris Baty in San Francisco, California, which has been hosting the event for more than a decade.

Students also get to have fun, and many teachers have figured out that the Young Writers Program, also sponsored by the Office of Letters and Light, helps improve literacy and writing skills in startling ways. In 2015, the YWP sent out 2,000 classroom kits to teachers around the world at no cost. A total of 80,137 students and teachers participated in the 2015 YWP, and nearly 20,000 reached their goals.

After you signup, it's also good to join a "region" on the website (ours is "Elsewhere: Micronesia") where you can get information about local write-ins and other relevant local writerly news. There's also a ChaNoWriMo chat group on Facebook, for those who want to write their stories in Chamorro.

People love stories. Now you can tell yours and help create your vision, one word at a time, in a novel.

It's happening here. It's surprisingly fun! And it's free. ***(PR)***

New coconut rhino beetle invading Pacific islands

During the XXVth International Congress of Entomology in Orlando, Florida (Sept. 25-30, 2016), the largest gathering of its kind ever held, scientists met in a special symposium to find answers to the problem of invasive scarab beetles, damaging species that are spreading around the globe. The meeting was timely, with reports of a new, highly damaging biotype of the coconut rhinoceros beetle recently established in a number of Pacific Islands, including Hawaii, and reports of the ornamental and turf damaging Japanese beetle established for the first time on the European continent in Italy. The scientists were concerned that increasing international transport and new races of pests are challenging our quarantine systems and will result in severe and ongoing damage once they break through.

Guam and CNMI participants of the XXVth International Congress of Entomology in Orlando, Florida on Sept. 25-30, 2016.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A new biotype of the coconut rhinoceros beetle poses a special threat. The pest has invaded Guam, where entomologist Dr. Aubrey Moore predicts that if effective control measures cannot be found more than 50 percent of the palms on the island will be killed by the pest. The damaging beetle was found to belong to a new biotype by AgResearch New Zealand scientist Dr. Sean Marshall and has since been found causing heavy damage on a number of other Pacific Islands. The beetle has established a beachhead in Hawaii where Project Operations Manager Dr. Darcy Oishi is running a multimillion dollar program to contain and eradicate the pest.

Representative of the Pacific Community, Dr. Maclean Vaqalo, said the real threat is to the small countries and atolls of the Pacific where the coconut tree is the "tree of life," providing essential food and shelter to the people. If nothing is done to help the small island states in the Pacific to contain the pest it will simply re-invade the cleared areas and may even reach the American continents.

A special meeting was called by Phil Andreozzi of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to take advantage of the presence of the assembled scientists to develop a plan to address the problem of the coconut rhinoceros beetle in the Pacific. The expert team began work on an operational framework and established working groups to increase awareness of the problem, plan emergency responses, enhance biosecurity, and look for long-term biological solutions. Participants were pleased with the meeting and the opportunity offered by ICE to start to address the problem in a coordinated fashion to overcome this severe threat as soon as possible.

Guam was represented at the meeting by University of Guam entomologists Dr. Aubrey Moore and Dr. Ross Miller. ***(PR)***

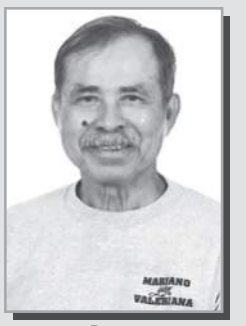
Family grief support group to meet on Oct. 6

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Oct. 6, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, email tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. ***(PR)***



PLEASE VOTE! BOTA!

ANTONIO MUNA CAMACHO

House of Representatives
Precinct 5

NO. 1 on the Ballot

Independent Candidate

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of : CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0198C
CANDELARIA KILELEMAN :
Deceased. :

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Candelaria Kileleman, Deceased; and that the said Petition will be heard by the Court on October 27, 2016, at the hour of 9:00 a.m.

Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Candelaria Kileleman, Deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in said Estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court whithin sixty (60) days from the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, Attorney for Petitioner. All claims to so filed shall be forever barred.

DATED: SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

/s/ Clerk of Court

Alfredo J. Cabael and Mary Ann L. Cabael
P.O. Box 505053 Saipan, MP 96950
483-4663/234-2664

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In re the Matter of Adoption For:) **FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0470**
L. N. C. B.)
By) **ORDER SHORTENING TIME AND NOTICE OF HEARING**
Alfredo J. Cabael and Mary Ann L. Cabael)
Petitioner (s))

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING. It is hereby ordered that the time for notice of hearing for Petitioner(s) petition be shortened and that the hearing be set on October 6, 2016 at 10:30a.m. in Courtroom 205A.

Dated this 29th day of September, 2016.

/s/ KENNETH L. GOVENDO
Judge

Antonia M. Tudela
P.O. Box 500723 CK, Saipan MP96950
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 285-0070

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF AS GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE OF: Cameron Kraig M. Tudela Minor Child) **FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0471**
By) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
Antonia M. Tudela Petitioner)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petitioner for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor child by Antonia M. Tudela, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior Court before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on the 20th day of October, 2016 at 10:30 A.M. or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

CTSI Logistics

LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN GUAM?

CTSI Logistics Guam is seeking for motivated, driven, and committed heavy equipment drivers.

COMMERCIAL TRACTOR DRIVER

Technical Education or High School Diploma
Must have min. three (3)yrs. experience in operation of heavy equipment

FUEL HAULING TANK TRUCK DRIVER

Technical Education or High School Diploma
Must have min. three (3) yrs. experience in operation of heavy equipment (preferably transporting petroleum products)

**Must be able to obtain the following upon arrival in Guam:*

Medical Examiners Certificate under USDOT Requirements
TWIC- Temporary Worker Identification Card
"C- Chauffeaur's" License

**Must be willing to relocate as soon as possible.*

To apply, send resume to ctsi@ctsiguam.com or drop off at CTSI Logistics Palau, P.O. Box 1713 Malakal, Koror, Republic of Palau 96940 | Tel: (690) 488-2845/1085

With over 25 years in the region and with a network of 22 stations in 12 countries, CTSI Logistics is one of the fastest growing companies in the Western Pacific.

www.ctsi-logistics.com

Tinian students flex their art muscles in show

This art show by Tinian Elementary School students relates to the study of cubism, which is one of the most influential visual art styles of the early 20th century. The style was created by Pablo Picasso and George Braque in Paris between 1907 and 1914.

Cubist painters try to depict an object in multiple perspectives onto a two-dimensional canvas. For example, all sides of a piece of fruit are shown, including the back side.

The theme for this show was gardening, and the paintings included: Eggplants At Midnight, The Dirt Digger, The Watering Can, and Double Fighting Rooster. The show opened on Sept. 30 and will run through mid-October. Paintings can be viewed at the Tinian Public Library. ***(Christina Zuccaro)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Connie Manglona enjoys the brightly colored display.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Municipal counsel member Ray Cing showed his support for TES students.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas and his wife show their support for students and their works by attending the art show opening.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DPS Tinian director Juan Santos enjoys the evening with his son viewing the paintings.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) studies the artwork.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Acollador share a quiet moment with their daughter reflecting on the artwork.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Elementary School students show off their artwork at the Tinian Public Library.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Elementary School vice principal Joann Cepeda and parent Fritz San Nicolas enjoy the show.

Sequoia returns from Pacific fisheries deployment

U.S. COAST GUARD/CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SARA MOOERS

The USCGC *Sequoia* maintains position off the Jinn Hsing Tsai No. 3 in the Philippine Sea while a joint boarding team conducts a boarding of the vessel to enforce fisheries regulations, Sept. 2, 2016.

HONOLULU—The USCGC *Sequoia* crew returned home to Guam on Sept. 22, after a near monthlong patrol of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean to deter illegal fishing of highly migratory fish stocks such as tuna and build relationships with Pacific island nations.

"*Sequoia* patrolled more than 3,970 miles over 25 days and conducted 14 at-sea boardings," said Lt. j.g. Charlie Totten, operations officer aboard *Sequoia*. "The boardings resulted in the reporting of 11 potential Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention violations to the applicable flag states for further investigation and enforcement."

Also, of note was that *Sequoia*'s crew discovered and recovered an abandoned 33-foot 3.2-ton bamboo and wood vessel determined to be an illegal fish aggregating device. It posed a navigational hazard and the use of fish aggregating devices is an illegal fishing practice in Palau waters.

The Western and Central Pacific Ocean is home to the "tuna belt" and supplies about 60 percent of the global tuna supply, worth an estimated $7 billion a year. With more than 5,600 fishing vessels registered with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, there are serious concerns about the sustainability of straddling fish stocks. Illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing presents a significant threat to the multinational fishing fleets that operate in the region.

During each fisheries patrol, the U.S. Coast Guard is protecting the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone from foreign fishing vessel encroachment, enforcing domestic living marine resources laws, and ensuring compliance with international agreements. One of these international arrangements is the WCPFC, comprised of 40 member nations, territories, and cooperating non-members that regulate fishing for highly migratory species on the high seas of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. Within these partnerships, the Coast Guard works closely to ensure all fishing fleets comply with the provisions of the agreement.

Sequoia is one of the vessels authorized to carry out boardings and inspections of foreign fishing vessels on the high seas under the WCPFC convention. *Sequoia*'s crew embarked an Australian Fisheries Management Authority shiprider for a portion of this deployment who was an asset in assessing potential WCPFC violations and also speaks Indonesian, able to converse with many of the fishing vessel crews. In addition to WCPFC, the Coast Guard executes bilateral agreements with nine Pacific island nations. These agreements, commonly known as shiprider agreements, allow enforcement authorities from host nations to embark a Coast Guard or U.S. Navy platform to enforce the host nations' fisheries laws inside their EEZ. This allows for capacity building, training, joint operations and the safeguarding of highly migratory fish stocks in the region.

Sequoia's crew embarked a Palauan shiprider for a portion of this deployment. Marine Forces Pacific, 3rd Radio Battalion, also provided a linguist who speaks Mandarin Chinese to facilitate more effective communication with the fishing vessel masters.

"Our primary mission was the preservation of living marine resources, including highly migratory fish stocks, through enforcement of international agreements and our partnerships with Australia and Palau," said Lt. Cmdr. William Adams, commanding officer, USCGC *Sequoia*. "Fisheries are a huge economic driver in the Pacific and influence the stability of the region. Preservation of the resources and the reef are especially important to Palau. Our exchange allowed us to share best practices with both nations for locating and identifying these fishing vessels and any illegal fishing practices while providing a platform to enforcement the WCPFC regulations and the laws of Palau in their respective waters."

Fish stocks are a renewable resource if managed correctly and not overfished. More importantly, fish stocks are a global food source and provide economic stability for many countries. In the U.S. alone, the fishing industry employs 1.3 million people and contributes $199 billion per year to the U.S. economy, according to NOAA's 2012 Economic Report. Many Pacific island nations rely on the fishing industry for revenue and sustenance. Depleted fish stocks could contribute to the destabilization of the region and leave small nations vulnerable to dangerous transnational organized crime networks.

The *Sequoia*'s crew also sought out volunteer opportunities while deployed. They conducted a high school visit with several hundred students in Koror, Palau, where Coast Guard missions and navigation, damage control and seamanship skills were showcased. A number of the crew attended the Palau Community College observance of Sept. 11, alongside local and embassy officials. A diverse team from *Sequoia* spent the day with the Civic Action Team at Camp Katuu in Airai, Palau, assisting with facility improvements and equipment maintenance at the joint military installation. *Sequoia* also transported 21,800 lbs of construction supplies and parts for the CAT, significantly reducing logistics costs and shipping time. All of these efforts further the Compact of Free Association between the U.S. and Palau. ***(U.S. Coast Guard)***

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Edward C. Cabrera, Petitioner, vs. Amelita L. Quiazon, Respondent
) FCD – 01
) CIVIL ACTION
) NO. 15-0585
) **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is Mailex #274 Box 1085 as soon as practical after filing your answer it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you. by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2015.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive
Whispering Palms
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsmile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner: Antonio C. Chong

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

LUIS SANTOS CHONG,

Decedent.

Civil Action No. 16-0196

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION and

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Date: October 20, 2016
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Judge: Joseph Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE LUIS SANTOS CHONG OR OF HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Antonio C. Chong** of Saipan, CNMI ("Petitioner"), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letter of Administration of the **Estate of Luis Santos Chong, Decedent.** The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert T. Torres, Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by **Antonio C. Chong,** as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on **October 20, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 27th day of September, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) for Joaquin M. Manglona

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Joaquin M. Manglona is requesting to rezone Lot 001 H 06 in Susupe from "Village Residential" to "Village Commercial" zoning district to construct a two or three storey hotel facility.
A public hearing will be held on:

Date: November 03, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room
2nd Floor, Joeten Dan Dan Commercial Building

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, November 02, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB 1: CHCC/BEH-001

OPENING DATE: **October 3, 2016 (MONDAY)**
BID MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BEH OFFICE IN NAVY HILL NO LATER THAN:
CLOSING DATE: **October 7, 2016 (FRIDAY) TIME: 11:00 am**

SPECIAL NOTICE TO BIDDER

Bid vehicle is offer for sale in same (as is) condition. **ALL VEHICLES SOLD AS IS. THERE ARE NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES.**

- Bidder is caution to inspect the vehicles on or before dateline in Navy Hill BEH campus.
- Highest bidder will be notify within 15 work days from the deadline (10/7/2016)
- Removal/relocation of vehicle from BEH campus in Navy Hill is the responsibility of bidder.
- Winning bidder unresponsive within 15 work days to BEH office notification (10/21/2016) will be cancel and given to next highest bidder
- Bided vehicle shall be taken or remove BEH campus on or before October 21, 2016.
- CHCC-BEH office provides an inspection period for prospective bidder to determine the true condition and bid accordingly.

Address all Correspondence to:

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Bureau of Environmental Health

ATT: Director, BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH office
P.O. Box 500409
Saipan MP 96950

PHONE NO: (670) 664-4870/72
Fax: (670) 664-4871

EMAIL: John M. Tagabeul @ john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp or Stanley Iokapo @ stan.iokapo@dph.gov.mp

Lot No.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT OF MEASURE	MINIMUM BID PRICE
1	**Grey 1997 Nissan Pick Up 4X4** Gov't Tag: FA#00330 LP # 2780 • Vin#1N6SD11Y2VC410745	1-unit	$50.
2	**Orange 1997 Nissan Pick Up 4X4** Go't Tag: FA#00331 LP # 2781 • Vin#1N6SD11Y24C4C411698	1-unit	$250.
3	**White 1998 Nissan Pick Up 4X4** Gov't Tag: CNMI#409958 LP# 2861 • Vin#1N6DD21Y4W0307228	1 unit	$250.
4	**Purple 1997 Hyundai Accent** Gov't Tag:US#30757 LP# 2729 • Vin #KMHVF14N3VU420234	1 unit	$200.
5	**Beige 1997 Mitsubishi Montero** Gov't Tag: US#32924 LP# 3099 • Vin#JA4MR31H4X1004970	1 unit	$150.
6	**Blue 2000 Hyundai Accent** Gov't Tag: US#33942 LP# 3200 • Vin #KMHCF45G8YU065090	1 unit	$100.
7	**Beige 1998 Mazda Protégé** Gov't Tag: FA#00296 LP# 3200 • Vin #:JM1BC1416W0189951	1 unit	$350.
8	**Beige 1998 Mazda Protégé** Gov't Tag: 00293 LP# 4186 • Vin # JM1BC1416W0189335	1 unit	$250.
9	**White 2000 Hyundai Accent** Gov't Tag FA#00188CM LP# 3581 • Vin #KMHCF45G64U530055	1 unit	$100.

INSPECTION DATE(S) EXCEPT WEEKEND & HOLIDAYS
STARTING 10/3/2016 0900 HRS. ENDS 10/7/2016 1000 HRS

DATELINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BID:
October 7, 2016, 11:00 am
BEH Navy Hill Office P O. Box 500409
664-4870/72

Return all Bid to:
CHCC-Bureau of Environmental Health Office, Navy Hill
Att: BEH Director
P.O. Box 500409, Saipan, MP 96950

Your bid envelop must be seal & marked
ITB1-CHCC-BEH 001

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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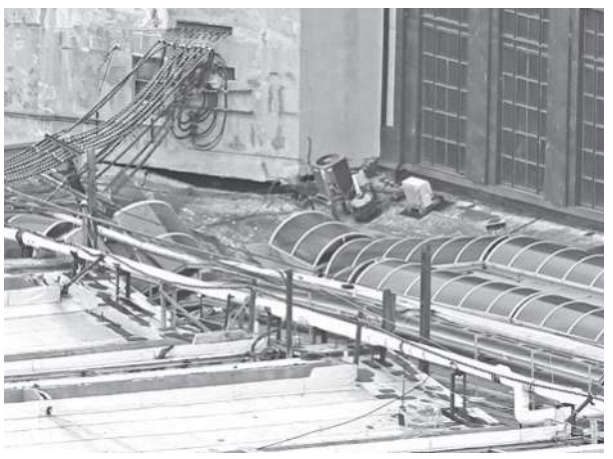
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Train wreck might hold key lessons for future



It's going to take a full and careful accounting to determine what caused Thursday morning's train crash at the Hoboken Terminal in New Jersey, and to help us understand how to prevent future incidents.

A 34-year-old woman on the platform was killed and more than 100 people were injured when a New Jersey Transit train smashed into the historic station at high speed around 8:45 a.m. It's unclear whether human or mechanical error was to blame.

We do know that commuters in the station rushed toward danger to help injured people escape from the damaged train, their kindness and courage a bright spot in a dark tragedy. Thankfully, the crash occurred at the end of the morning rush hour, or there would have been more people on the platform when the train barreled through a concrete barrier.

A train engineer waiting at the station told reporters he never heard the sound of brakes. In a news conference, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said that when federal investigators come up with recommendations, officials will follow through on them. Hopefully, that will be the case this time. It has not always been in the past.

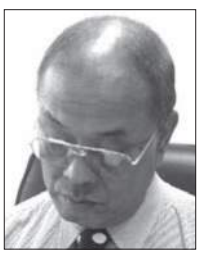
One of the recommendations after a Metro-North Railroad crash in the Bronx in 2013 and an Amtrak crash in Philadelphia in 2015 was that railroads adopt a system known as positive train control, which can stop a train when it detects a human or systems error. Cuomo allowed that the system "could be a benefit," though it wasn't immediately clear whether it would have prevented this incident.

Congress mandated such a system in 2009 for passenger services, demanding it be installed by 2015, but the technology is expensive and railroads have repeatedly won delays in the implementation. The deadline now is 2018. If it turns out such a system could have helped here, the delays must stop and the technology must be installed.

Unpreventable deaths are a tragedy, but preventable deaths are inexcusable.

(c)2016 *Newsday*

Future of our people



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

The future of the indigenous people throughout the Pacific comes into sharper focus as the simple folks ponder dealing with China's aggressive investment schemes at home.

It is happening here and in Tobi too where huge investments and infusion of new people and businesses have displaced local mom and pop stores in the business center. Do they care about our future or wellbeing?

The forced change isn't necessarily huge. It's humongous! It deals with the eventual displacement of a way of life from small family businesses to none, among others.

There's also the uproar among locals and foreign workers retained at handsome salaries and wages who recently were told by their employer that their annual income would have to be adjusted downwards. Really? Such a move has resulted in locals abandoning their jobs. There goes assimilation into the local community. How then is the future of our people handled from this point on?

What went wrong? A lot is sandwiched in what I call the "elite culture" of elected and appointed officials establishing their teeny community wining and dining with their new bosses at some posh setting. They are now servile lapdogs.

In the process they impose distance and detachment against folks who placed them in office. They are too busy calculating their next paycheck from their rich new partners! Scary! Troubling, huh? This must be stopped dead on its track, immediately!

With the way the NMI has been wholesaled by local officials to filthy rich investors you could imagine our turning into complete lapdogs and slaves right here at home some five years down the road. Is this your vision of our future?

Strange answers...

There are issues that are easily answered. Others needed quick replies for the sake of it while still others needed verification to ensure accuracy.

Having listened to politicos, it's easy discerning what's up their sleeves struggling to explain issues. I mean if you're struggling to explain an issue then it instantly shows your lack of clarity of understanding what's at stake. Do I listen or force a pretentious smile of interest to your disoriented spout? Call it polite niceties!

Dissecting your position on casino is quite a task though riddled with suspicion on every corner. It turns into an interesting probe including whether you have any sense of vision and conviction to guard the long-term interest of your people. Or is your view limited to protecting your power and influence knowing "we the people" are no longer sheeple—not easily fooled—like sheep at a pasture. Those days are gone!

Who was it that said liars are easily caught? Coincidentally, it seems we've found a whole bunch of them seeking re-election or a shot at the misunderstood role of policymaking. Can any of you honestly answer why are you running for public office? What have you done or what are your professional credentials that qualify you as a policymaker? Or is your view of the role of policymaking limited to the empty joy of yelling "biba?" Like my grandson would spout, "Get real, lai!"

CUC: Serving two masters

CUC is mired in the marshland of disorientation where the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. And so the redundant narrative is repeated every so often including expressions like "unsatisfied" with the performance of its staff on fixing water leaks, etc.

All roads lead back to the obvious incompetence of the board planning basic infrastructure emplacement, repairing water leaks all over the island, all placed on head-on-collision when the board decided to descend into micromanaging the utility agency. This encourages full-blown confusion among technical and professional staff serving two masters: the board and division bosses. Very confusing and discouraging!

The genesis of the mounting mess is found in the board being so clueless what policymaking entails. It is further saddled by its lack of credentials on planning that includes installing the future needs of the islands' on water and power. It is simply too busy traveling and collecting high per diem fees at the expense of ratepayers. Has the board done anything credible on policymaking?

Is it that difficult running the utility agency? Nah! Get rid of the clueless board and let someone with clear management disposition clean out the mess in 90 days. Have done it at DPL restoring integrity and accountability in the "management, use and disposition" of public land and funds accruing from lease of indigenous public land.

See FUTURE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

An adventure in New Zealand

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mary Grace S. Tiglao checks out the flora at Tasman Bay.

By MARY GRACE S. TIGLAO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Mary Grace S. Tiglao is a 2016 graduate of Marianas High School and is the CNMI delegate to the Sir Peter Blake Trust Youth Enviro Leadership Forum back in April.

"To win, you have to believe you can do it. You have to be passionate about it. You have to really "want" the result—even if this means years of work. The hardest part of any big project is to begin..."

— Sir Peter Blake's last log aboard the *Seamaster* before he was shot by pirates in 2001.

I had the amazing opportunity to be one of the first Pacific delegates to the Sir Peter Blake Trust 2016 Youth Enviro Leadership Forum (YELF for short) in April. I was able to travel to New Zealand (Wellington, Nelson, and Auckland) and had the time of my life while learning heaps of new things.

From the moment I set foot in New Zealand, the breathtaking flora and fauna, city lights, and enchanting scenery immediately made its mark on me. I knew at once that this beauty must be preserved.

This year's YELF focused on pest eradication, ocean health, and biodiversity. Aside from the workshops and adventures, we went all around Nelson developing deeper connections with our new friends as well as deepening our understanding of our planet.

Before the forum began, I was hosted by Bronwen and Ashleigh, two lovely ladies from The Pew Charitable Trusts. They showed me and my fellow Pacific delegates around the city of Wellington. We visited Wellington Zoo where we got a behind the scenes to look at what goes on at The Nest Te Kōhanga, the zoo's hospital and was greeted by a recuperating penguin. Later, at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa we were able to see cultural and historical Maori artifacts as well as the museum's Pacific collection.

On the first day of the forum, we touched down at Nelson on the South Island. After settling in, we quickly got into groups and headed out to do volunteer work as part of Serve for NZ's ANZAC Day campaign. In Australia and New Zealand, ANZAC Day is similar to our Memorial Day. At the end of the day, our cooking skills were put to the test as we had a MasterChef Challenge, complete with judging from NZ MasterChef winner Tim Read. I must digress; being surrounded by my Kiwi peers, it was a bit of a culture shock.

We had the opportunity to truly be immersed in Maori culture. We visited Whakatu Marae and I had my first Hangi lunch—a traditional Maori cookout where food is cooked in a pit oven with heated rocks. After that we headed off to Brook Waimarama Sanctuary where we learned about their efforts in pest eradication. The friendly ranger explained to us the sanctuary's efforts of pest proofing the area to help save the native species from stoats and possums. Rather than use controversial 1080 aerial poison, they plan to use brodifacoum to get rid of the other. Unlike 1080, brodifacoum is more environmentally friendly as it does not dilute and affect water supplies. It also has an antidote in case of accidental poisoning. Another way they catch pests is with the use of traps. Although time consuming, traditional traps are still effective in reducing pests. Recently, the sanctuary's latest project is installing a pest-free fence over the entire area. The fence features a very fine mesh that extends underground to prevent burrowing.

One place that we were fortunate to go to was Cable Bay. At the marine reserve we did the usual recreational activities of kayaking and snorkeling. However, it was anything but usual. One lucky group encountered a pod of orcas as they were kayaking the chilly waters. Another group was able to see seals. Looking underwater as we snorkeled proved to be a spying game of sorts. You had to be on the lookout for marine life to be able to witness it in all its natural glory. Among the many things we spotted I saw kina, colorful fishes, a sting ray, and an octopus! Not even the cold temperature could keep me from enjoying the swim. On our trip to the Cawthron Institute, I gained a broader idea of how ocean acidification is affecting our marine environments. As global warming increases, the amount of carbon dioxide in the ocean increases and causes it to become more acidic. Marine life is detrimentally affected as CO^2 exposure can cause adverse effects on fish reproduction, diet, and especially shellfish.

It amazes me how far their people go to preserve and protect the natural and native state of their land. I think we can learn a thing or two from our kiwi neighbors. I certainly learned a lot. Probably the most important thing I took from this experience is that "change starts with you." Although a tad cliché, that saying is very applicable to almost anything and in this case environmental change. In order for there to be change, you need to start the ball rolling yourself. Everyone and anyone is capable of helping the earth become a little bit cleaner and healthier. From the smallest gestures such as picking up litter or planting a new tree, to the grandest like successfully creating a marine sanctuary, every bit helps. However, in order for this change to be effective, it must be a collective community effort. Only then will we be successful.

Thinking back on home, I am reminded that Saipan's main industry is tourism. If we continue to let our environment deteriorate, our economy will suffer and not only that, but future generations may not be able to enjoy and experience it. Like Sir Peter Blake has said, "I think everyone really needs to understand that we are a part of the environment, not apart from it."

My participation was sponsored by The Island Voices, a learning network of artists, educators, fishermen, navigators, and leaders, communicators of traditional knowledge and wisdom, and advisers to The Pew Charitable Trusts. I was nominated by Vicky and Island Voices Ambassador Diego T. Benavente.

I would like to thank Pew, the Marianas Tourism Education Council, the Sir Peter Blake Trust team, and the New Zealand Ministry for the Environment for giving me this opportunity of a lifetime. Kia Ora.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Participants in the Sir Peter Blake Trust 2016 Youth Enviro Leadership Forum have their picture taken at the house of Clarice Johnston.

FUTURE

From Page 10

The mounting mess is in the lack of leadership and clarity among board members what policy formulation entails. And so there goes the choir singing *Three Blind Mice* leading the utility agency into Banzai Cliff. This can't go on in perpetuity and not at the expense of ratepayers or the entire local economy crashing needlessly as a result of the lack of competency to plan the basic water and power needs of the island. Not very encouraging, is it?

Confused employees now answer to their immediate bosses and board members too. Despicably pathetic! But the new power to micromanage looks welcomed for a board so clueless of its fiduciary duty!

Camouflage outfit

There's so much hype about the dime-a-dozen candidates vying for office. But we haven't heard anything of substance. The anticipation is high but there's little satisfaction. We look forward to a slugfest, e.g., Thrilla In Manila, but there's only Oriya or fringe!

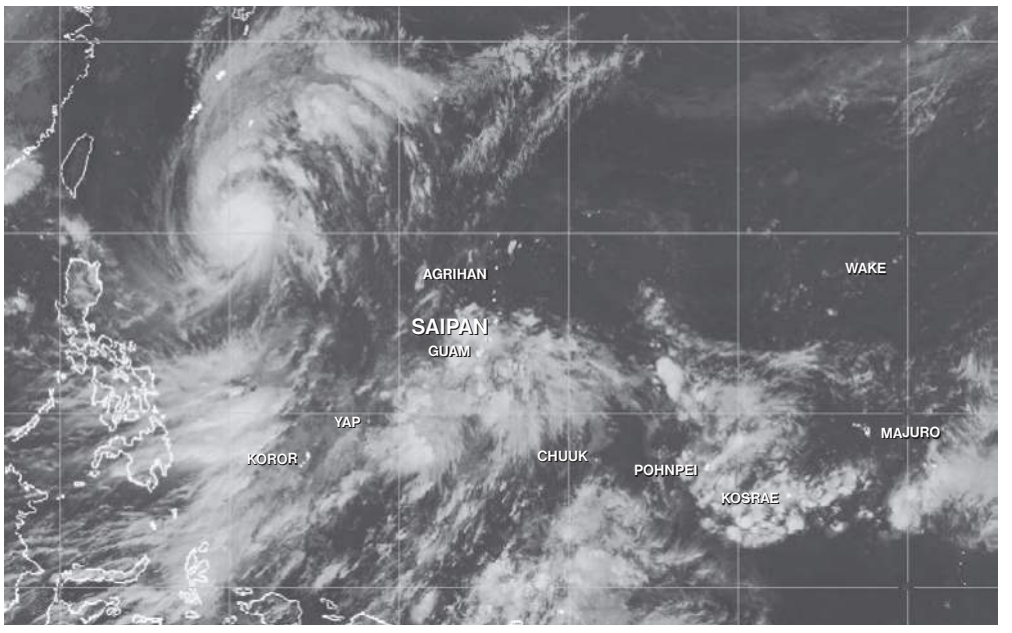
The guys and gals aren't wearing regular clothing. Each has seen fit to don camouflage rags like Army Fatigue to skip houses quickly where hard questions may be asked of them. And so they've got *Skip To My Lou* down to an art. Wow! Everbody home?

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 4:00 PM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A disturbance to the southeast of Guam, centered near 11N147E, brought scattered showers with occasional heavy rain to the Marianas earlier today. Isolated showers are seen over the Marianas at the present time, though scattered showers are seen on satellite and radar just to the east of the coastal waters. These showers are expected to affect the islands within the next few hours, again bringing a possibility of locally heavy rainfall to the region. Winds this afternoon are gentle to moderate and are expected to gradually increase over night as the disturbance draws closer to the Marianas.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Strong thunderstorms	85 / 79 °F
Palau	Strong thunderstorms	82 / 80 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	77 / 87 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	80 / 87 °F
Pohnpei	Partly sunny	74 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Heavy rain	80 / 85 °F
Majuro	Strong thunderstorms	82 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Morning clouds	56 / 62 °F
Beijing	Morning clouds	54 / 79 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	78 / 86 °F
Honolulu	High level clouds	75 / 81 °F
London	Sunny	41 / 63 °F
Los Angeles	Mostly sunny	57 / 76 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Melbourne	Afternoon clouds	50 / 57 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	80 / 86 °F
New York	Cloudy	61 / 73 °F
Osaka	Mostly cloudy	72 / 76 °F
Paris	Sunny	40 / 65 °F
Pusan	Haze	72 / 82 °F
Rome	Morning clouds	61 / 76 °F
Salem	Partly sunny	48 / 62 °F
San Francisco	Cloudy	54 / 62 °F
Seoul	Tons of rain	62 / 77 °F
Tokyo	Mostly cloudy	69 / 76 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	57 / 74 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
2:59 AM	LOW TIDE	0.24 Feet
9:04 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.82 Feet
3:16 PM	LOW TIDE	0.68 Feet
8:44 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.8 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:07 AM	6:05 PM
Tuesday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	7:39 AM	7:40 PM
Tuesday	8:27 AM	8:20 PM
Wednesday	9:14 AM	9:02 PM
Thursday	10:03 AM	9:46 PM
Friday	10:51 AM	10:32 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Business

Report: Trump losses may mean he didn't pay taxes for years

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Trump's business losses in 1995 were so large that they could have allowed him to avoid paying federal income taxes for as many as 18 years, according to records obtained by The New York Times.

In a story published online late Saturday, the Times said it anonymously received the first pages of Trump's 1995 state income tax filings in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. The filings show a net loss of $915,729,293 in federal taxable income for the year.

That Trump was losing money during the early to mid-1990s—a period marked by bankruptcies and poor business decisions—was already well established. But the records obtained by the Times show losses of such a magnitude that they potentially allowed Trump to avoid paying taxes for years, possibly until the end of the last decade.

Trump's campaign released a statement on Saturday lashing out at the Times for publishing the records and accused the newspaper of working to benefit the Republican nominee's presidential rival, Democrat Hillary Clinton.

"The New York Times, like establishment media in general, is an extension of the Clinton campaign, the Democratic Party and their global special interests," the campaign said, calling Trump "a highly skilled businessman who has a fiduciary responsibility to his business, his family and his employees to pay no more tax than legally required."

The statement added that Trump had paid "hundreds of millions" of dollars in other kinds of taxes over the years.

Clinton's campaign manager, Robby Mook, used the Times story to needle Trump about not releasing his tax returns and contending during his first debate with Clinton that not paying federal income taxes would show he was "smart."

Mook said in a statement that Trump apparently avoided paying taxes for two decades "while tens of millions of working families paid theirs. He calls that 'smart.'" Mook added: "Now that the gig is up, why doesn't he go ahead and release his returns to show us all how 'smart' he really is?"

Since 1976, every major party presidential nominee has released tax returns. Clinton has publicly released nearly 40 years' worth, and Trump's running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, has released 10 years of his tax returns.

But after initially saying that he would make his returns public during the course of his campaign, Trump switched course, citing what he said were years of ongoing IRS audits and the advice of his attorneys to keep them private as those audits proceed.

Former IRS officials have expressed skepticism that anyone would be audited so frequently, and they and other tax experts say there's no prohibition on Trump releasing his returns even if he is.

AP

This June 7, 1995, file photo shows real estate magnate Donald Trump posing for photos above the floor of the New York Stock Exchange after taking his flagship Trump Plaza Casino public in New York City.

In its story, the Times said the three pages of documents were mailed last month to a Times reporter who had written about Trump's finances. A postmark indicated they had been sent from New York City and the return address claimed the envelope had been sent from Trump Tower, the newspaper said.

Trump's campaign did not directly address the authenticity of the excerpts from Trump's tax filings. Former Trump accountant Jack Mitnick, whose name appears as Trump's tax preparer of the filings, confirmed their authenticity, the newspaper reported.

"This is legit," Mitnick told the newspaper.

The Times said a lawyer for Trump argued that publication of the records would be illegal because Trump had not authorized their disclosure.

Because of provisions in the tax code that allow wealthy individuals to offset their personal income with losses in various partnerships and business ventures, Trump could have used his losses in 1995 to avoid incurring tax liabilities on as many as three years of prior and 15 years of future profits.

The $916 million in losses reported by the Times would not include previous years of losses incurred by Trump while his New Jersey casino empire slid into bankruptcy.

Malls, stores consider new ways to protect shoppers

NEW YORK (AP)—More sophisticated cameras. Security robots. Customers feeling shaken by recent attacks at U.S. malls may not notice huge changes—but mall operators are testing and putting in place new technologies and other measures to offer people more protection without intruding too much on their shopping time.

Mall executives say shoppers have been adamantly opposed to airport security tactics like metal detectors. So they're trying other things, and increasingly using mass notifications that let them send text and email alerts to tenants within seconds in case of a crisis.

Concerns about safety have been heightened by the attacks. Those included a shooting in the makeup area of a Macy's store near Seattle, where five people died, as well as stabbings at a Minnesota mall where ten people were injured before a police officer shot the assailant.

Justin Dye, 41, of Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania, said he has felt more on edge when he goes to his local mall.

"You're not paranoid. But you are alert of the people around you," he said. The father of two said he now looks for where the exits are, and in a store he scouts for dressing rooms or back offices should he need to hide. "I'm always thinking about if something could happen, where would I go, and what should I do?" he said.

The recent attacks are "awful tragedies," and at the top of retailers' minds, said Lisa LaBruno, a senior vice president at the Retail Industry Leaders Association trade group. She was attending an already-scheduled meeting about security this week with store executives. "They are committed to reassessing the situation and identifying ways in which they can mitigate risks."

Still, she and other industry experts acknowledge that mall and store operators don't have much control over actually stopping any incident from happening. They do say they hope to minimize any threat and focus on keeping people safe.

Shopper surveys done every April by the International Council of Shopping Centers show that people aren't interested in metal detectors or similar tactics, the trade association said. "They don't want to be impeded as they go about their lives," said Malachy Kavanagh, a spokesman for the mall association.

Dye's among those who doesn't want to deal with the hassle of metal detectors; he said he'd rather see more armed security guards at shopping centers.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Volkswagen reaches $1.2B settlement with dealers in scandal

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Volkswagen has agreed to pay its U.S. dealers up to $1.2 billion to compensate them for losses they said they suffered as a result of the company's emissions cheating scandal, according to a settlement agreement filed Friday in federal court in San Francisco. Under the terms of the deal, dealers can choose to opt out and pursue their own lawsuits against Volkswagen. A judge still has to approve the settlement before it can go into effect. Volkswagen previously reached an agreement with attorneys for car owners. That deal calls for it to spend up to $10 billion buying back or repairing about 475,000 vehicles involved in its scandal and paying their owners an additional $5,100 to $10,000 each.

EU nations approve ratification of climate change pact

BRUSSELS (AP)—The European Union's environment ministers on Friday approved the ratification of the landmark Paris climate change pact, paving the way for the agreement to take effect in November. "It's really a historic result," French Environment Minister Segolene Royal told reporters after the ministers agreed unanimously to ratify the deal at talks in Brussels, tweeting "Victory!" in delight. "It was not was a sure thing," she added, given the different energy requirements and concerns among the EU's 28 member nations. After years of negotiations, governments agreed in Paris last December to curb emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that scientists say are warming the planet.

California opens pathway for cars that lack steering wheel

By JUSTIN PRITCHARD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

California regulators have changed course and opened a pathway for the public to get self-driving cars of the future that lack a steering wheel or pedals.

It's not going to happen immediately—automakers and tech companies are still testing prototypes.

But, in a shift, the state's Department of Motor Vehicles said in a revision of draft regulations released late Friday that the most advanced self-driving cars would no longer be required to have a licensed driver if federal officials deem them safe enough.

The redrafted regulations will be the subject of a public hearing Oct. 19 in Sacramento.

The DMV has been wrestling for several years with how to oversee the emerging technology.

In December, the agency released an initial draft of self-driving car regulations that required a licensed driver in any self-driving vehicle. The industry reacted with great disappointment, as the ultimate vision of many companies is a car that has no wheel or pedals. That approach is based on the argument that humans are not very good at driving, and anyway cannot be relied on as a backup to a car that typically drives itself but might fail in a way that required a person in the driver's seat who might be distracted or even asleep to snap to attention.

The DMV's new document coincides with the release last week of a 112-page federal proposal under which any self-driving car should pass a 15-point safety assessment before the public can get ahold of it. Among other things, the safety assessment asks automakers to document how the car detects and avoids objects and pedestrians, how hardened it is against cyberattacks and what how its backup systems will cope should the software fail. In incorporating the federal approach, California dropped a proposal that a third-party company certify the safety of self-driving cars.

The new draft regulations released Friday include several other new provisions. Among them is wording that would prohibit advertising vehicles with lower levels of automation—such as Tesla Motors' Autopilot, which on divided highways can keep a car's lane, brake and accelerate on the understanding that a person is paying attention all the time—from being advertised as "autonomous" or "self-driving."

The company that stands to gain the most from the state's embrace of cars without a wheel or pedals is Alphabet, where the Google self-driving car project envisions cars that allow no human control other than a start and emergency stop button. A spokesman for the Google self-driving car project did not have a comment Friday on the changes to the proposed regulations.

Nation

Boy, 6, dies days after South Carolina school shooting

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—A 6-year-old boy who was critically wounded in a school shooting died Saturday, days after a 14-year-old boy opened fire on a school playground, authorities said.

Jacob Hall had been fighting for his life at a hospital after a bullet struck him in a main artery in his leg, causing him a major brain injury due to a "catastrophic" loss of blood, his doctor said. Jacob died about 1 p.m. Saturday, and an autopsy will be done Sunday, Anderson County Coroner Greg Shore said.

Authorities say Jacob, another student and a first-grade teacher at Townville Elementary were wounded by the teenager, who had just killed his father at their home. After the slaying, the teen—who is not old enough to have a driver's license—drove a pickup truck about 3 miles down a country road, crashed at the school and started firing with a handgun, authorities said.

AP

Townville Elementary students look out of the window of a school bus as they are transported to Oakdale Baptist Church, following a shooting at their school in Townville, S.C., on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016.

The wounded were struck as a door opened for recess. Another teacher who heard the first gunshot was able to get other students safely inside, school officials have said. The other wounded student and the injured teacher, Meghan Hollingsworth, were treated and released from a hospital.

Jacob's parents, Renae and Rodger Hall, thanked the nurses and doctors who cared for Jacob and Hollingsworth, "who put her life on the line to try to protect and save Jacob."

Jacob died surrounded by his family at Greenville Health System Children's Hospital, his parents said in a statement.

"Jacob came into our lives six years and four months ago and changed it completely. He showed us how to love, laugh and smile even on days we did not want to," his parents said. "God gave him to us and he was taken away from us by a senseless act. We know that Jacob has already forgiven this child for what he did to him and his family because that's the kind of child he was."

Authorities have not released a motive for either shooting.

The teenager was charged as a juvenile Friday with murder and three counts of attempted murder. The Associated Press typically does not identify juveniles charged with crimes.

Dr. Keith Webb called Jacob a "tremendous fighter" but said he "unable to overcome the catastrophic blood loss and resulting cardiopulmonary arrest caused when the bullet hit his femoral artery."

Classes at Townville Elementary are set to resume Monday.

Father: Son's killing is a 'turning point' to change police

EL CAJON, Calif. (AP)—The father of an unarmed black man who was fatally shot by police in a San Diego suburb on Saturday told hundreds of demonstrators who peacefully marched through downtown streets that his son's death was a turning point in a struggle to change police practices.

Richard Olango Abuka called the El Cajon officer who fired his gun "a coward" and demanded that Police Chief Jeff Davis resign.

The orderly protest followed days of angry, sometimes unruly, protests that led to Friday's release of two videos by the authorities, something that the family and community had urged.

The videos show the officer fired four times at close range almost immediately after Alfred Olango, 38, suddenly raised both hands to chest level and took what police described as a shooting stance. In addition to the videos, police showed the 4-inch electronic cigarette device Olango had in his hands when he was shot.

The shots came less than a minute after police arrived at the scene in response to Olango's sister calling 911 and reporting he was acting erratically.

There was a modest police presence Saturday to direct traffic as demonstrators walked from one rally to another, shouting Olango's name in unison as they made a short loop through the heart of the city of 104,000 people to Civic Center Plaza, which includes police headquarters. There were no reports of arrests or property damage.

"We must be united in this fight until we achieve our goals," Richard Olango Abuka told the crowd. "Alfred's death is going to be a turning point, and the change is now."

The father didn't directly address the videos but other speakers did. The Rev. Frank Placone-Willey of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in nearby Santee, California, read an email from a parishioner who watched them and questioned if police would have responded less aggressively if Olango were white.

"As long as Mr. Olango was not causing harm other than possibly blocking traffic, the officers should have taken steps to deescalate the situation," Placone-Willey read from the email, sparking applause.

Several speakers said the incident highlighted a need for more police training on how to handle people who are in mental distress.

Marijuana labs spawn lethal explosions across the country

NEW YORK (AP)—An explosion that destroyed a New York City home and killed a firefighter has drawn attention to marijuana-making methods that are legal in many states—but can also be lethal.

A New York fire battalion chief died responding to the blast Tuesday in a Bronx home that authorities say had been converted into an indoor marijuana farm. They're investigating whether the alleged growers tampered with gas lines and mishandled other materials in ways that caused the explosion.

Indoor marijuana farmers can create potential fire hazards by using natural gas, propane or butane to power carbon dioxide generators that make the plants grow. In recent years across the country, similar methods used to produce more potent marijuana extracts have resulted in explosions and other catastrophes.

Indoor gas use "is a standard way to grow marijuana," says Michael O'Hare, a professor at the University of California in Berkeley who is an expert in cannabis cultivation. "If you raise the CO2 level, it'll grow faster."

Some growers rely on propane or butane gas because using large amounts of metered gas from a utility could draw the attention of authorities, who might question why so much fuel is needed for a house of a certain size, O'Hare said. In those conditions, a gas leak could spell disaster, he said.

An hour before the explosion at about 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday in the Bronx, dozens of nearby residents said they could smell gas wafting over the neighborhood. The house had already been evacuated and fire personnel were on the scene when the blast sent debris flying, killing Chief Michael Fahy, a 17-year fire department veteran and father of three. His funeral was being held Saturday.

Two suspects, Garivaldi Castillo and Julio Salcedo, were arrested and are being held on drug charges while authorities try to determine whether there is evidence they could result in more serious counts related to Fahy's death.

Prosecutors said in court this week that the two-story Bronx property was full of combustible items related to the pot operation, including grow lamps and vats of liquid fertilizer. Windows were sealed and other areas covered with extra insulation to retain heat. Plants the size of "small trees" were growing in bedrooms on the upper floor.

A lawyer for the 32-year-old Castillo has questioned his connections to the house. Castillo has pleaded not guilty. Salcedo, 34, was arraigned late Friday, pleaded not guilty and is being held without bail.

Firefighters packed the courthouse where Salcedo was arraigned. Earlier, as he walked into a Bronx precinct, some firefighters told him to "burn in hell," The New York Daily News reported.

Floods' pain still felt 1 year later in rural South Carolina

KINGSTREE, S.C. (AP)—A world away from South Carolina's booming coastal resorts, hundreds of homes remain unrepaired in the county hardest hit by last year's floods. Now they're getting one last push of help.

A Christian group of about 1,500 carpenters, plumbers, electricians and other volunteers that formed in response to Hurricane Katrina is on its way to Williamsburg County, where flooding damaged 28 percent of the homes badly enough to qualify for federal aid.

"We're coming here to rebuild homes and help their souls out too," said Steve Tybor III, the president and co-founder of Eight Days of Hope, which aims to fix 150 homes with moldy walls, leaky roofs and holes in their flooring.

The volunteers are responding to a critical need. As wide-scale weather disasters become the new normal, rural communities like Williamsburg County are being left behind not so much by federal and state officials, but by the skilled workers they need to repair their homes. Most repairmen followed the money to urban areas, or to the next disaster.

The nearly two feet of rain that swamped the state last October caused the slow-flowing, tea-colored Black River to rise 18 feet in five days, cresting at double its flood stage, three feet above what anyone alive had ever seen.

Willette Thompson's mobile home still isn't right. The rain damaged her roof, there's mold in her walls, and the moisture created two holes in her floor that she covers with rugs and bottles of water. Federal disaster money paid for replacement flooring and a new front door, but they remain in boxes, unopened. The contractor she hired stopped returning her calls long ago.

County officials say many hundreds of the 3,349 homes that received Federal Emergency Management Agency money still aren't fixed.

Most of the homes that suffered the worst damage have been abandoned or demolished. But homes that weren't damaged beyond repair remain inhabited, even though they could be full of dangerous mold or safety hazards after water settled into drywall, roofs and foundations.

These people are the ones struggling to find help.

"You have to have a place to live," Thompson said. "But you do worry about what you can't see."

Williamsburg County suffered the worst damage of any South Carolina county by far. About 28 percent of households qualified for federal aid, including more than a third of the mobile homes. No other county had more than 17 percent of its homes damaged.

And Williamsburg was hurting for resources long before the disaster. The population is 65 percent black and the median income is $16,000 below the South Carolina average, which is already near the bottom among U.S. states.

Asia

Duterte 'happy to slaughter' drug suspects; mentions Hitler

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte raised the rhetoric over his bloody anti-crime war to a new level Friday, comparing it to Hitler and the Holocaust and saying he would be "happy to slaughter" 3 million addicts.

Duterte issued his latest threat against drug dealers and users early Friday on returning to his hometown in southern Davao city after visiting Vietnam, where he discussed his anti-drug campaign with Vietnamese leaders and ways for their governments to fight transnational crimes, including illegal drugs.

Duterte has said his public death threats against drug suspects are designed to scare them to stop selling drugs and to discourage would-be users. But his latest remarks took that crime-busting approach to a different level.

He said he had been "portrayed or pictured to be a cousin of Hitler," without elaborating.

Moments later he said, "Hitler massacred 3 million Jews ... there's 3 million drug addicts. There are. I'd be happy to slaughter them."

He was referring to a Philippine government estimate of the number of drug addicts in the country. Historians say 6 million Jews were killed by the Nazis under Hitler before and during World War II.

During the presidential election campaign earlier this year and during the three months he has held office, the tough-talking Duterte has threatened to drown drug suspects to fatten the fish in Manila Bay. He also threatened to execute drug traffickers by hanging—because he didn't want to waste electricity on them—until their heads were severed from their bodies.

AP

In this Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016 file photo, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte reviews an honor guard during a welcome ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi during his two-day visit to Vietnam.

While Hitler's victims were innocent people, Duterte said his targets are "all criminals" and that getting rid of them would "finish the (drug) problem of my country and save the next generation from perdition."

Germany's government slammed Duterte's comments as unacceptable, and called in the Philippine ambassador to the Foreign Ministry over the matter.

"It is impossible to make any comparison to the unique atrocities of the Shoah and Holocaust," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Schaefer in Berlin.

World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder said Duterte's remarks were "revolting" and demanded that he retract them and apologize.

"Drug abuse is a serious issue. But what President Duterte said is not only profoundly inhumane, but it demonstrates an appalling disrespect for human life that is truly heartbreaking for the democratically elected leader of a great country," Lauder said in a statement issued from Jerusalem, where he was attending the funeral of former Israeli leader Shimon Peres.

Philippine Rep. Teodoro Baguilat wondered if the president was suggesting that "it's open season now for all addicts, no more rehabilitation, just kill them systematically like what the Nazis did with the Jews." He expressed fears that Jewish businesspeople might boycott the Philippines.

Also critical was Phil Robertson, Asia deputy director for Human Rights Watch, who said it was baffling why anyone would want to compare themselves to "one of the largest mass murderers in human history."

ASIAN BRIEFS

13 dead, 20 still missing in China after typhoon landslides

BEIJING (AP)—Thirteen people have been confirmed dead in two landslides after a major typhoon lashed southeastern China, with the prospect of the toll rising further as rescue crews continued Saturday to search for 20 missing people. The landslides Wednesday in Zhejiang province, south of the financial hub of Shanghai, followed Typhoon Megi, which brought heavy rains and high winds to China and Taiwan this past week. Eight people were confirmed dead in Sucun village, according to a government statement published Saturday. Video published by the official Xinhua News Agency shows fast flood waters carrying rocks and debris down a mountain and into the adjacent hamlet, destroying homes and sending people fleeing. The statement says 19 people are still missing three days later.

Gunmen kills 6 civilians, 1 police officer in Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Unknown gunmen killed six civilians in Pakistan's southwestern Baluchistan province while attackers killed a police officer in the southern city of Karachi in order to free two alleged killers he was escorting, officials said Friday. Local administrator Mohammad Younus of Baluchistan's Panjgur district said gunmen killed six people from the same family in an isolated house. The victims include a father, his two sons and two female relatives, said Younus, adding that the motive for the killings was still under investigation. Baluchistan is the scene of an ongoing low-intensity insurgency by Baluch separatist groups, and Islamic militants also operate in the area. In southern port city of Karachi, four gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on a car in which police officers were escorting two men accused of killing a policeman back from a court hearing, said Mushtaq Maher, the city police chief.

Thousands of Indians declare $9.5 billion in black money

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's finance minister says tens of thousands of Indians have declared a total of $9.5 billion in black money as part of a one-time opportunity to come clean under a government scheme. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said Saturday that the declarations by 64,275 people came in a four-month window that ended Friday, allowing illegal income and asset holders to pay a tax, surcharge and penalty totaling 45 percent to avoid prosecution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi won elections in 2014 promising to curb corruption and the flow of black money abroad. The government has been facing opposition pressure to act since the April release of financial documents naming companies and individuals who may have dodged taxes by setting up shell companies and accounts through brokers based in Panama.

Uncertainty over Philippine president alarms investors

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's bloody anti-drug war and his foul-mouthed outbursts in defense of the campaign have unnerved foreign investors in one of Asia's fastest-growing economies.

Analysts and businessmen point to uncertainties about Duterte's policies and flip-flopping pronouncements as largely to blame for foreign selling in the stock market and the peso's plunge to a seven-year low, reversing the initial optimism after his June 30 inauguration.

Some experts say unpredictability is slowing longer-term foreign investment in the Philippines. Photos and reports in the media of killings of suspected drug dealers and users—more than 3,000 since July 1—have contributed to sagging confidence.

"We can all deal with risks. We can put measures in place to provide for risks," said Guenter Taus, the head of the European Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines. "But uncertainty is a factor that we do not like in business, and that is exactly what we're experiencing right now because we don't know where we are heading."

Taus said several companies that had intended to establish operations to the Philippines now prefer to wait and see what happens under Duterte. He declined to say which companies had changed their plans.

He said investors unsure about the Philippines may choose to look at other Southeast Asian countries to gain access to the region's common market of more than 600 million people.

The American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines said this month that while the country's economic fundamentals are strong and its potential high, there is growing concern that Duterte's policies and behavior could affect long-standing optimism by American businesses in the Philippines.

The chamber said that the large number of deaths in the anti-drug campaign is harming the Philippines' image, and that some investors are asking if the drug war "reduces the rule of law."

"In addition, traditionally excellent bilateral relations between the U.S. and the Philippines have recently been strained by language from Philippine leaders," the chamber said.

Earlier this month, before heading to a regional summit in Laos where he had been scheduled to meet with President Barack Obama, Duterte used the Tagalog phrase for "son of a bitch" as he told Philippine reporters he wouldn't accept questions from Obama about extrajudicial killings that have occurred during the drug crackdown. Obama cancelled the meeting.

Pakistanis turn flag ceremony near Indian border into rally

WAGHA, Pakistan (AP)—A routine daily flag-lowering ceremony at an Indian-Pakistani border crossing became a show of strength and patriotism Saturday on the Pakistani side thanks to simmering tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbors.

Thousands of Pakistanis thronged the border town of Wagha to watch their soldiers lower the flag. The ceremony takes place daily and features a formal set of handshakes between Indian and Pakistani soldiers. Very few people attended from the Indian side.

Saturday's ceremony took on extra meaning because of an ongoing dispute between India and Pakistan over the contested territory of Kashmir. Both countries claim the Himalayan territory in its entirety and are separated by the heavily guarded Line of Control.

Since 2003, a cease-fire has largely held despite regular small-scale skirmishes. Each side routinely blames the other for starting any violence and insists they are only retaliating.

India blamed Pakistani-supported Kashmir-based militants for a deadly Sept. 18 assault on a base in Indian-controlled Kashmir that killed 17 Indian soldiers.

On Sept. 29, the Indian military claimed to have carried out a "surgical strike" across the Kashmir border that destroyed what it called a "terrorist launching pad" used by Kashmir-based militants. Two Pakistani soldiers were killed in that barrage.

The latest spike in tensions has spilled over into a cultural and political stand-off. The Indian Motion Picture Artists Association announced it would ban Pakistani actors from Bollywood movies and several large Pakistani cinema chains announced they would stop showing Indian movies.

Saturday's ceremony began with the march of two female border guards. Then a Pakistani Sikh soldier shook hands with his Indian counterpart; the soldier also shook his fist aggressively at the Indian soldier as the Pakistani crowd clapped in approval.

Among those who travelled to witness the ceremony Saturday was 70-year-old Mohammad Ahsan, who said he came from southern port city of Karachi.

World

Matthew, a Category 4 hurricane, threatens Haiti, Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—Hurricane Matthew, a potentially devastating Category 4 storm, swirled across the Caribbean toward Haiti and Jamaica, where residents frantically stocked up on emergency supplies and authorities urged people to evacuate threatened areas.

Matthew is one of the most powerful Atlantic hurricanes in recent history and briefly reached the top classification, Category 5, before weakening slightly to a high-end Category 4 storm with winds of 150 mph (240 kph). It is the strongest hurricane here since Felix in 2007.

While previous forecasts had Matthew passing near or over the eastern tip of Jamaica, the latest projection has it shifting eastward and possibly striking the southwestern tip of Haiti on Monday. A hurricane warning has been issued for the impoverished country which shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic.

Deforestation has greatly increased the potential for devastating floods and landslides on Haiti, and combined with the ramshackle structure of many homes and building, this means that Matthew could deal a vicious blow to the country.

After passing Jamaica and Haiti, Matthew is expected to reach Cuba on Tuesday, potentially making a direct hit on the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay.

A mandatory evacuation of non-essential personnel, including about 700 family members of military personnel, was underway at the base and everyone remaining behind was being told to take shelter, said Julie Ann Ripley, a spokeswoman. There are about 5,500 people living on the base, including 61 men held at the detention center.

The forecast track would also carry Matthew into the Bahamas, with an outside chance of a brush with Florida, though that would be several days away.

"It's too early to rule out what impacts, if any, would occur in the United States and Florida," said Dennis Feltgen, a spokesman at the Hurricane Center.

In Haiti, civil protection officials broadcast warnings of a coming storm surge and big waves, saying the country would be "highly threatened" from the approaching system, which is expected to start affecting Haiti and Jamaica Sunday night. They urged families to prepare emergency food and water kits.

Emergency management authorities banned boating, particularly along the impoverished country's southern coastline.

In Jamaica, where there is also a hurricane warning, flooding temporarily closed the road linking the capital to its airport. Carl Ferguson, head of the marine police, said people were starting to heed calls to relocate from small islands and areas near rural waterways.

AP
A worker hauls a board to use on a storefront window as protection against hurricane Matthew in Kingston, Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016.

Residents of the capital, Kingston, crowded supermarkets to buy bottled water, canned food and batteries. In the coastal town of Port Royal, officials were urging residents to seek refuge in government shelters once they open up on Sunday.

Many Jamaicans also began stocking up for the emergency.

At the Azan Super Centre, a supermarket in Kingston, shoppers were scooping up flashlights and gas lamps and other key supplies along with food. The kerosene was already sold out.

"It has been chaos from the morning," owner Melain Azan said.

Shopper Nardia Powell said she was stocking up because she learned a hard lesson when she was unprepared for Hurricane Ivan in 2004, as were many others. "So, I just want to be on the safe side, right?" she said.

Jamaicans are accustomed to intense storms, but Hurricane Matthew looked particularly threatening. At its peak, it was more powerful than Hurricane Gilbert, which made landfall on the island in September 1988 and was the most destructive storm in the country's modern history.

As of 11 p.m. EDT (0300 GMT), the storm was centered about 340 miles (550 kilometers) south-southwest of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. It was traveling north-northwest at 7 mph (11 kph).

Leader pledges to rid Nigeria of hunger, omits worst crisis

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Nigeria's president promised Saturday to drive hunger out of Africa's most populous nation but made no mention of a conflict-driven famine threatening to kill tens of thousands of children in northeast Nigeria.

The United Nations has warned that 75,000 children could die of starvation in a year if speedy action isn't taken in northeast Nigeria, where underfunded aid agencies say 4.4 million people need food and 65,000 are living in famine-like conditions amid an Islamic insurgency by Boko Haram extremists.

Children with matchstick limbs and protruding ribs already are dying but a regional official for Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency, Muhammad Kanar, denied Friday that the region had even one case of malnutrition. He spoke after the U.N. Children's Fund doubled its funding appeal to $115 million, calling it one of the world's worst humanitarian crises.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari made no reference Saturday to the food emergency in a speech marking the West African nation's 56th anniversary of independence from British colonizers.

Instead, he painted a rosy picture of military successes against Nigeria's homegrown extremists in the northeast, repeating that Boko Haram "was defeated" by December 2015.

"Now, residents in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States ... go about their daily business in relative safety," he claimed. "Commuters can travel between cities, towns and villages without fear."

Aid workers and residents of Borno, the worst-hit state and birthplace of Boko Haram, say they fear to venture out of Maiduguri, the biggest city in the northeast, for fear of attack. As a result, Doctors Without Borders said people in newly liberated towns are "entirely reliant on outside aid that does not reach them."

Colombians vote on peace deal after polarized campaign

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—The guns have been silenced, the agreement signed and a historic handshake between former enemies made in front of the entire world. Now it's time for Colombians to decide whether or not to support a peace deal with the country's largest rebel movement.

Polls taken before Sunday's referendum, in which voters will be asked whether they want to ratify or reject a deal ending a half century of hostilities with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, show the "yes" vote favored by an almost two-to-one margin.

But the government isn't taking victory for granted amid a highly polarized campaign that has exposed how steep a challenge it faces implementing the 297-page accord and bringing about real reconciliation. Colombians overwhelmingly loathe the FARC, who the U.S. considers a terrorist group, and many consider provisions in the accord that would spare the rebels jail time an insult to the 220,000 killed and almost 8 million displaced by the long-running conflict.

In the past month, ever since the deal was announced in Cuba after four years of grueling negotiations, the government has been spending heavily on television ads and staging concerts and peace rallies around the country to get out the vote. They've even enrolled the help of U2's Bono and ex-Beatle Ringo Starr, and for the first time in an election it's making available in braille thousands of ballots so blind Colombians can vote.

"We don't want anyone to be feeling excluded because this is an important decision," said Luisa Fernanda Morena, a 30-year-old volunteer preparing the materials at the National Institute for the Blind.

For the referendum to be ratified at least 13 percent of the electorate, or 4.5 million voters, must cast "yes" ballots. Turnout is expected to be low, no higher than the 40 percent seen in recent congressional elections, a sign to some analysts that Colombians enthusiasm for implementing the ambitious accord is lacking.

The opposition, led by powerful ex-President Alvaro Uribe, argues that the government is appeasing the FARC and setting a bad example that criminal gangs will seize on.

Pope tops off Caucasus visit with a stop in Azerbaijan

BAKU, Azerbaijan (AP)—Pope Francis arrived in Azerbaijan on Sunday for a 10-hour visit aimed at encouraging the country's multi-faith society and likely overlooking recent criticism of a referendum that extends the president's term and powers.

Azerbaijan, the second-largest Shiite Muslim nation after Iran, has a tiny Catholic population—fewer than 300 Azeris are Catholics. Several thousand foreigners make up the rest of the Catholic community, and Azeri Jews, Zoroastrians and other minorities round out Azerbaijan's religious mix.

Francis will meet with representatives of all the main faiths as well as President Heydar Aliyev before heading back to Rome on Sunday night after a weekend visit that took him first to Georgia.

Last week, Azerbaijan's Central Election Commission said more than 80 percent of voters backed a constitutional amendment extending the presidential term from five to seven years, and granting the president the right to dissolve parliament, creating new vice presidential jobs and canceling age limits.

Aliyev's opponents, as well as rights organizations including Amnesty International and Freedom House, said the moves would cement a dynastic rule in the oil-rich Caspian Sea nation. The Azerbaijani government has rejected the criticism, saying the constitutional amendments are intended to cut the red tape and speed up economic reforms.

It's unknown if Francis will press Aliyev on the issue or other broader criticisms of alleged human rights abuses and suppression of dissent.

Francis will celebrate Mass in the Catholic church that was built after St. John Paul II visited Azerbaijan in 2002. After that visit, Aliyev donated a plot of land on the outskirts of the capital, and local Muslims and Jews helped build it.

"I cannot contain my boundless joy," 61-year old parishioner Eva Agalarova said of Francis' visit. "It is both joy and happiness that the faith gives me."

Francis' visit to Azerbaijan comes after a June visit to neighboring Armenia, in hopes of bringing a message of peace between two former Soviet republics over Nagorno-Karabakh. That region is officially part of Azerbaijan, but since a separatist war ended in 1994, it has been under the control of forces that claim to be local ethnic Armenians but that Azerbaijan claims include the Armenian military.

Local Azeri media hasn't given much attention to the papal visit and many were unaware of the upcoming Mass. But Baku's Muslim residents still welcomed Francis' visit.

"Islam is a tolerant religion and it accepts all faiths," said the hijab-wearing Aygun Mikayilova. "I will welcome the pope's visit if he is bringing a message of peace, calm and tolerance."

Focus

Children of Syria's Aleppo bear brunt of violent onslaught

By SARAH EL DEEB and PHILIP ISSA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT (AP)—The 6-year-old girl was found trapped under the rubble of her home, destroyed by an airstrike in Syria's rebel-held city of Aleppo. "Dust!" she wailed as rescue workers pried away the stones and debris on top of her, finally freeing her and placing her on a stretcher as she screamed for her father.

"Forget the dust. I'll wash your face and give you water. Come on, sweetheart," one rescuer said.

Bruised and battered but alive, Ghazl Qassem was among the lucky survivors of the attack earlier this week. Four days later, rescue workers were still digging Friday through the rubble of the apartment building after pulling out the bodies of 20 people, including nine children, most from Ghazl's family. They were searching for at least three others believed inside.

At least 96 children are among the 320 people killed in Aleppo since a cease-fire collapsed on Sept. 19, according to UNICEF, as Syrian and Russian warplanes barrage the city's eastern opposition neighborhoods, trying to crush more than five years of resistance there. Almost a third of the 840 people wounded over the same period are children, according to the World Health Organization.

"Aleppo is one of the most dangerous places in the world, and in the last week it has become perhaps the most dangerous place in the world for children." Juliette Touma, regional chief of communications for the U.N children's agency told The Associated Press.

Nearly 300,000 people—including 100,000 children—are trapped in Aleppo's rebel-held eastern districts, a pocket of resistance some eight miles long and three miles wide that civil defense workers say has been hit by 1,900 bombs in the past week. The campaign has wreaked destruction on hospitals, clinics, residential buildings, water stations and electric generators.

Parents desperately struggling to keep their families safe fear the threat of an imminent ground offensive. They hold little hope for the future, with no regular schooling and little access to nutritious food. Images of wounded and screaming children, covered in dust or being pulled out of rubble, have become a daily reality in Aleppo.

"We are totally resigned to God's will," said Khaled Sakka, a father of 10 children, all under the age of 14. He, his three wives and the children all sleep in one room in the middle of the house, the only safety measure they have against the nightly airstrikes.

"The bombs are bringing down five-story buildings. They are even reaching bunkers," he said.

Wounded children are often left untreated, sometimes to die, in Aleppo's overwhelmed hospitals. Only 30 doctors remain in opposition-held neighborhoods: One physician for every 10,000 people, compared to a peacetime standard of one for every 1,000, Touma said.

"It is very difficult to know how many (children) are traumatized, but one would imagine every single one is impacted by the horrors, especially with the intensification of the violence in the past week," she said.

So-called bunker-busting bombs, designed to target underground structures, have been widely used, possibly to crush tunnels or bunkers used as refuge by the thousands of rebel fighters defending the districts.

But the powerful bombs also threaten the underground shelters where civilians take refuge and where children go to school. For the past several years, most classes have been held in basements because of the constant fighting and threat of airstrikes.

"The use of bunker-busting bombs means there is literally nowhere we can keep children safe, " said Nick Finney of Save the Children, which runs 13 schools in eastern Aleppo, eight of them held underground. "We're now more likely to see children being pulled from the rubble or treated on the floor of a hospital than sitting at a school desk."

When schools opened across the country this month, they remained closed in eastern Aleppo because of the danger, said Brita Haj, the head of the local council in the rebel-held part of the city.

Medics say the death toll among children and other residents may be far higher than reported, since some families bury their dead without taking them to hospitals or morgues, and many victims remain buried in the rubble.

Dr. Hatem, a pediatrician, said women and children make up a large percentage of the victims because they are the ones who stay at home. As one of two pediatricians in besieged Aleppo, Hatem said he had an enormous load even before the last week's intensification of fighting, treating 80 to 120 children a day.

Now he's seeing a spike in wounded children in intensive care, from four or five a month to four or five a day. There is also a rise in aggressive behavior among children and various signs of trauma such as bed-wetting or losing the ability to walk or talk, said Hatem, who gave only his last name out of security fears.

Ghazl Qassem was at home with her four siblings, her pregnant mother, cousins and grandmother when the bomb struck Tuesday around midday. Their apartment building is adjacent to a hospital in a neighborhood with a number of specialized clinics; hospitals and clinics have been frequent targets in the recent campaign.

The children's father, Hussein, was not home at the time.

Since Tuesday's attack he has not moved from the rubble as the bodies of his family members have been pulled out one after the other, including his wife and three other children, said a neighbor, Tamim Selim.

Ghazl is staying with an aunt. "She is having nightmares. She is still in shock. She sleeps and wakes up, reaches for her mother's phone and watches photos there and cries," Selim said.

Abdul-Majid Malah, a father of three who lives nearby, rushed to the scene after the bomb.

"I only saw the dust. When it settled, the building was all on the ground. It was like dominos," he said.

His children, ages 2, 3 and 4, rush into his arms every time they hear a bomb, he said. Then a minute later, they go back to playing.

There is no adequate underground shelter in his building for Malah, his pregnant wife and children to take refuge.

"We can only pray that the bombs don't hit us at home," he said, adding that he stays up all night tracking where the missiles are hitting. "I won't be able to change fate, but I am too stressed out to fall asleep."

The park next to their house was bombed last month, so the children have not been allowed to venture outside. On Friday, incendiary bombs hit outside their building, but no one was hurt.

"We only survive on hope," he said.

AP

In this Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016, photo provided by the Syrian Civil Defense group known as the White Helmets, shows a Civil Defense worker carrying the survived child Ghazal Akhtarini, from under the rubles after airstrikes hit al-Shaar neighborhood in Aleppo, Syria.

AP

In this Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016, file photo, provided by the Syrian anti-government activist group Aleppo Media Center (AMC), shows a nurse treating a boy suffering from breathing difficulties inside a hospital in Aleppo, Syria.

Health & Fitness

Got kidney stones?
Try riding a roller coaster to dislodge them

TNS

Excited people riding roller coaster in an amusement park.

By MELISSA HEALY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Just ask any one of the 300,000 Americans who, in any given year, develop kidney stones: What if the excruciating pain of passing one of those little devils could be prevented by strapping yourself into a make-believe runaway mine train, throwing your hands in the air and enduring G-forces as high as 2.5 for about three minutes? Would you do it?

Heck yeah, they'd do it.

In a bit of medical research inspired by strange and remarkable patient accounts, a Michigan State University urologist reports that, yes, riding a medium-intensity roller coaster such as the Disney theme parks' Big Thunder Mountain Railroad can result in the painless passing of small, and even a few large, kidney stones.

For best results, ride in the back, where — roller coaster afficionados all seem to agree — the thrills are greatest. Independent of kidney stone volume and location, findings reported Sunday in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association showed that sitting in the back of the roller coaster resulted in an average passage rate of 63.89 percent.

Front-seat rides resulted in a far more modest passage rate of 16.67 percent.

In what magical kingdom, you may well ask, does someone think to conduct such research?

Dr. David D. Wartinger, a professor emeritus at Michigan State University's College of Osteopathic Medicine, initiated the study after a series of patients reported something almost too strange to believe: In the wake of riding Big Thunder at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., these patients said their kidney stones passed painlessly from the kidney through the narrow duct of the ureter and into the bladder.

In one case, a patient told Wartinger that he passed one kidney stone after each of three consecutive rides on the roller coaster.

Using a 3-D printed model of that patient's kidney, Wartinger and his colleagues implanted three kidney stones of various sizes into the upper, middle or lower passageways of the clear silicone model. Two of those mineral clusters, which can form as the kidney filters waste from the bloodstream, were small-to-moderate size — 4.5 millmeters and 13.5 mm. Those might pass through the duct leading to the bladder without incident but could also cause considerable pain and discomfort as they passed unaided. But a third measured 64.6 mm, a size that would rarely pass without treatment — the administration of ultrasound shock waves, called lithotripsy, designed to break up the deposit and allow it to pass.

The researchers received permission from Walt Disney World first, then concealed the kidney model in a backpack and rode Big Thunder 20 times, varying their seat position between front and back.

After analyzing the location of those three kidney stones at the end of each ride, the researchers concluded that "findings support the anecdotal evidence that a ride on a moderate-intensity roller coaster could benefit some patients with small kidney stones," Wartinger said. When the kidney stone was large, the initial position of the kidney stone affected the likelihood of its passing during the ride. But even those passed two in three times while the silicone model rode the thrill ride.

"Many people in the United States probably live within a few hours' drive of an amusement park containing a roller coaster with features capable of dislodging calyceal renal calculi," wrote Wartinger and co-author Dr. Marc A. Mitchell of the Doctor's Clinic in Poulsbo, Wash.

Roller coaster therapy might be a good preventive treatment for people who are high risk of developing obstructive kidney stones, wrote Wartinger and Mitchell. They suggested that patients who have had kidney stones in the past, or women who have had kidney stones and are thinking of becoming pregnant, consider a thrill ride or two in a bid to clear tiny stones before the deposits grow larger. Kidney stone sufferers who have had their deposits broken up by lithotripsy might also consider a roller-coaster ride to finish the job, they said.

Healthy Living

A good bottle

Research suggests that sherry is likely to have the same health benefit as red wine – protection from coronary heart disease.

What's in a glass

- **Sherry contains antioxidants** called polyphenols, which increase HDL cholesterol associated with reduced risk of coronary artery disease
- **Polyphenols also keep LDL,** or bad cholesterol from building up on blood vessel walls
- **Types of sherry** with the highest polyphenol content include Oloroso, Manzilla, Fino and Amontillado
- **Sherries can be sweet** to very dry and range in color from pale gold to deep mahogany

Source: Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture, TNS Photo Service

Life & Style

Prince William and Kate finish Canadian tour in Victoria, BC

VICTORIA, British Columbia (AP)—Prince George left another Canadian hanging on a high-five and handshake, a week after doing the same to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

The 3-year-old George, wearing red shorts and a blue sweater with knee-high blue socks, enthusiastically waved to the crowd with both hands on Saturday just before he, his sister and their parents boarded a sea plane at a departure ceremony at the end of an official tour of Western Canada.

The shy future king declined a high-five and hand shake of a flower boy named Daniel Brachman. He looked toward his dad Prince William instead. When George arrived a week ago at the Victoria airport, he also left Trudeau hanging on a high-five and a handshake.

The departure ceremony on Saturday offered the only chance for public crowds to see George and 1-year-old Charlotte on the trip. The media had access to them two other times—at the airport arrival ceremony and a children's party for military families.

Prince William and Kate expressed their gratitude for the warm welcome they received from Canadians as they wrapped up their tour of Canada, a former British colony. William said the trip was memorable because it was their first official trip abroad as a family of four.

"We feel very lucky to have been able to introduce George and Charlotte to Canada," William said in a statement. "This country will play a big part in the lives of our children and we have created such happy memories for our family during this visit."

Earlier Saturday, William and Kate unveiled a statue in Victoria, British Columbia, that honors those who overcome challenges at the Cridge Centre for the Family, a nonprofit that offers programs for people with brain injuries and victims of domestic violence and provides health care.

The royal couple have advocated for a number of the same social causes in the U.K. Much of their tour of British Columbia and the Yukon has focused on social and mental health issues as William began the visit by saying he and Kate wanted to meet Canadians from all walks of life.

During their tour, the royal couple visited Vancouver's most impoverished neighborhood, participated in aboriginal ceremonies in Haida Gwaii, British Columbia, and met residents of the small community of Carcross, Yukon.

William and Kate's last stop was on board the tall ship Pacific Grace, operated by the Sail and Life Training Society, a charity that teaches young people ages 13 to 25 to sail.

Aboard the ship were youth involved in programs run by Jack.org, a charity that supports student leadership in promoting mental health. The Pacific Grace took the royal couple on a cruise of Victoria's inner harbor. When it returned, Kate could be seen at the helm.

There were also gifts on the final day of the visit as British Columbia Premier Christy Clark presented William and Kate with child-sized jerseys for the Vancouver Canucks National Hockey League team with Charlotte and George printed on the backs.

Canada's federal government announced a donation of CA$100,000 (US$76,000) to be split equally between two organizations to mark the visit.

Half of the donation will go to promote education in indigenous communities and help young people, while the other half will be donated to the Immigrant Services Society of British Columbia to help new arrivals with housing, employment and language skills.

AP

William and Kate, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge along with their children Prince George and Princess Charlotte get on a float plane as they prepare to depart Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016.

Patrick Dempsey returns to Maine for cancer fundraiser

LEWISTON, Maine (AP)—After hitting the red carpet this month for the release of his new movie, actor Patrick Dempsey has returned to his home state for a cancer fundraiser.

The Maine native, who plays a starring role in the new romance-comedy, "Bridget Jones's Baby," participated Saturday in a cancer survivor walk with his three children and two sisters.

The bike-and-run "Dempsey Challenge" raises money for The Dempsey Center. Dempsey and his sisters created the center in 2008 in partnership with the Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston.

They were inspired by their mother, Amanda, who died of cancer in 2014.

Dempsey said before the event that he's energized and inspired by the Lewiston-Auburn community. Last year, the event drew nearly 4,000 participants and raised $1.2 million.

"It's what keeps us motivated to keep working year round to expand and improve our services so we can help more people here in Maine and someday around the country," he said.

The event typically draws other celebrities and sports figures. This weekend's participants included NASCAR champ Bobby Labonte and several professional cyclists.

It's been a busy period for Dempsey, who became widely known as Dr. Derek "McDreamy" Shepherd on TV's "Grey's Anatomy." After leaving the show, he went to London to film "Bridget Jones's Baby." He's also reprioritizing his life to refocus on his marriage and family.

He said returning to his home state helps to keep him grounded.

"It's an experience that never leaves you and one I find myself connecting with and drawing from more and more as I raise my own children," he said.

Message of Appreciation
†Francisco
Ilo Iguel
"Ko/Tiku"
On behalf of my children and myself, I would like to extend our sincerest & heartfelt appreciation to all our families, relatives and friends; near and far, for your kindness, support and words of encouragement during our time of sorrow. Your most comforting expression of sympathy, kindness and prayers has deeply touched us. We are eternally indebted to you all. Your sincere kindness & love will be cherished and remembered by the family of the late †Francisco.
May God Bless you all!
Thank You, Melau Klaimwun, Ghillisow, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Arigato, Kom Kmal Mesulang, Maraming Salamat po!
Morihna M. Iguel,
Children and Family

Alec Baldwin is winning in new 'SNL' role as Donald Trump

NEW YORK (AP)—No debating: Alec Baldwin stole the show Saturday in his new role as Donald Trump when "Saturday Night Live" spoofed the recent presidential debate.

Facing off against Kate McKinnon as she impersonated Democratic hopeful Hillary Clinton, Baldwin delivered an orange-faced, blustery impression of her GOP rival.

He railed about U.S. jobs fleeing to "Chi-naah."

He sputtered that "my microphone is broken," and pointed to his opponent, insisting, "She broke it with Obama."

"Wrong!" ''Wrong!" ''Shut up!" he interrupted repeatedly.

As the "debate" progressed, make-believe Clinton seemed increasingly encouraged.

"Can America vote right NOW?" she inquired.

"I get it: You hate me," she then summed up in her closing statement. "You hate my voice and you hate my face. But if you never want to see my face again, elect me president and I swear to God I will lock myself in the Oval Office and not come out for four years."

AP

In this Jan. 13, 2015 file photo, actor Alec Baldwin attends a special screening of his film "Still Alice" in New York.

Baldwin's deal to play Trump for the remainder of the race was announced by NBC just days before "SNL" began its 42nd season and a little more than a month before voters choose between real-life Trump and Clinton.

Saturday's premiere featured Margot Robbie as guest host. In a "Family Feud" sketch, she impersonated the GOP candidate's daughter, Ivanka Trump, as a member of Team Trump, going up against Team Clinton, which included Larry David reviving his popular role as former Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders.

'Hamilton' creator Lin-Manuel Miranda urges people to vote

NEW YORK (AP)—Not going to vote this election? Lin-Manuel Miranda says "No" to this.

The creator of the Broadway musical, "Hamilton" wants people to get out and vote, and for good reason.

"I think a lot of people fought and died for the right to vote, and so I think our country is healthy when we turn out in large numbers," Miranda said on the red carpet at the New York Film Festival on Saturday.

Miranda doesn't accept the premise that some people will abstain from voting because they can't connect with Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump or Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton.

"Even if you don't agree with me on who to vote for, I want you to vote. I want the majority of the country to pick the person who is in charge of it," Miranda said.

He made the comments at a screening for "Hamilton's America," Alex Horwitz's upcoming PBS documentary that chronicles the making of Miranda's Tony- and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical.

Miranda

The musical has brought an understanding of policy and politics to a new generation with its unique telling of the life of founding father Alexander Hamilton told through an inclusive cast using a hip-hop and R&B score.

Earlier in the day, actors from "Hamilton" were helping to register voters at the show's home, the Richard Rodgers Theatre.

The show's lead producer Jeffrey Seller spoke proudly of the civic responsibility his cast was taking.

"There is no expression of our democracy that is more important or more integral than voting, so how fitting is it that the 'Hamilton' cast encourages all folks to vote," Seller said.

Miranda feels the arts can play a big role when it comes to civic responsibility, yet his motivation didn't come from his father, Luis, who worked as a political adviser, it came from watching "The West Wing."

"It was a really good TV show that put a human face on what actually happens in the White House," Miranda said.

That inspired him, and he feels "Hamilton" can share that same magic.

"To see the origin story of our country, in musical theater form, inspires people to think about what our country should be, and so we're just kind of playing that out in 2016."

While he could transform a story of a founding father into the hottest musical on the planet, Miranda isn't sure what he could have done with last week's presidential debate.

"I think that was the source for a lot of things. I don't know if a musical is the final form it will take, but it was certainly gripping live theater," Miranda said with a smile.

AP Sources: Deal will allow Pitt visitation with children

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Angelina Jolie Pitt and Brad Pitt have reached a temporary custody agreement that will allow the actor to visit with his six children, sources said Friday.

Two sources familiar with the agreement but not authorized to speak publicly said the agreement will be in place for three weeks. It calls for Pitt's first visit with his children to be monitored by a therapist, but that may not be a requirement for subsequent visits.

The sources say both actors have agreed to undergo individual counseling.

Calls to the offices of Pitt's attorney, Lance Spiegel, and Jolie Pitt's lawyer, Laura Wasser, were forwarded to recorded messages stating their firms do not comment on clients.

Jolie Pitt filed for divorce on Sept. 19, and her attorney said the following day her decision was "for the health of the family." Her filing sought sole physical custody of their six children, who range in ages from 8 to 15.

The temporary agreement has not been filed with the court, and Pitt has not yet responded to the case.

The FBI has said it is gathering evidence about allegations Pitt was involved in a dispute on a private flight with his family on Sept. 14, although the agency has not opened a formal investigation. Sources familiar with the allegations have said they center on the actor's treatment of his 15-year-old son, Maddox.

Several news outlets have reported that the incident was being investigated by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, but the agency said it could not confirm whether it was involved.

Pitt and Jolie had been one of Hollywood's highest-profile couples, establishing a joint foundation for charitable work and spending their time off-screen as a family.

Pitt skipped Wednesday's premiere of Terrence Malick's new documentary "Voyage of Time: The IMAX Experience," which he narrated. In a statement, Pitt said he was skipping the premiere because he was "currently focused on my family situation and don't want to distract attention away from this extraordinary film."

Van Gogh paintings are stolen in 2002 found in Italian farmhouse

ROME (AP)—Police investigating suspected Italian mobsters for cocaine trafficking discovered two Van Gogh paintings hidden in a farmhouse near Naples, masterpieces that had vanished in 2002 during a nighttime heist at Amsterdam's Van Gogh Museum, authorities said Friday.

The two paintings were "considered among the artworks most searched for in the world, on the FBI's list of the Top 10 art crimes," Interior Minister Angelino Alfano said.

They were found in a farmhouse near Castellammare di Stabia as Italian police seized some 20 million euros ($22 million) worth of assets, including farmland, villas and apartments and a small airplane. Investigators contend those assets are linked to two Camorra drug kingpins, Mario Cerrone and Raffaele Imperiale, according to a statement by prosecutors Giovanni Colangelo and Filippo Beatrice.

The recovered masterpieces, propped up on easels, were unveiled for reporters Friday at a news conference in Naples. Museum director Axel Rueger said Italian investigators contacted the museum earlier in the week and art experts determined the paintings were authentic.

"Needless to say, it's a great day for us today," Rueger told Sky TG24 TV. "We hope they are soon back where they belong."

With their frames removed and covered by cotton cloths, the paintings appeared to be in relatively good condition despite their long odyssey, the museum said.

One of the paintings, the 1882 "Seascape at Scheveningen," is one of Vincent Van Gogh's first major works. It depicts a boat setting off into a stormy sea, and the thick paint trapped grains of sand that blew up from the Dutch beach as Van Gogh worked on it over two days.

The other is a 1884-85 work, "Congregation leaving the Reformed Church in Nuenen," which depicts a church in the southern Netherlands where the artist's father was the pastor. Experts believe it was done for Van Gogh's mother.

Despite the wishes of the museum, the paintings are not leaving Italy anytime soon. They are evidence in an investigation of whether gangsters from the Camorra crime syndicate were behind the original theft or might have become involved with the artworks later.

The Camorra is one of Italy's three largest organized crime syndicates, with the Calabria-based 'ndrangheta by far the most powerful. The Camorra consists of many crime clans, based in Naples as well as many of the Campania region's small towns.

Financial Police. Col. Giovanni Salerno said investigators looking into the syndicate's cocaine trafficking operations got a tip that the Camorra might have the Van Gogh artworks.

"One of those being investigated made some significant comments about their illegal investments made with earnings from drug trafficking, and he indicated two paintings of great value that supposedly were purchased by Imperiale. They were the result of a theft carried out in the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam almost 14 years ago," Colangelo, the chief prosecutor in Naples, told reporters.

When renowned masterpieces are stolen, it's usually a theft commissioned by a private collector who has already agreed to buy them, since it's virtually impossible to sell them in the legitimate art market.

The Camorra and other Italian crime syndicates, awash in illegal revenues from drug trafficking, designer-goods counterfeiting and toxic waste dealings, are increasingly looking to launder their dirty profits and make even more money in the process.

Salerno said a person at the farmhouse when the paintings were found "didn't say a word" about how they wound up there. He declined to elaborate, saying the case is still under investigation.

The museum said the paintings, inspected by a curator, do show "some damage." Authorities don't know where the paintings were kept in the 14 years since they were stolen by thieves who broke into the museum overnight and made off with the works from the main exhibition hall, where dozens of Van Gogh paintings were on display.

‘Godspeed’ heads list of Golden Horse Award nominees

John Legend to portray Frederick Douglass on ‘Underground’

ATLANTA (AP)—Grammy-winning singer John Legend will play an iconic runaway slave-turned abolitionist on WGN America’s drama series “Underground.”

Sony Pictures Television and WGN announced in a statement Friday that Legend will guest star as Frederick Douglass. Legend also serves as an executive producer of the series, which delves into the challenges and dangers for slaves during their journey on the Underground Railroad.

The second season is expected to premiere early next year. Episodes are being filmed in Savannah, Georgia, for the first time since moving production from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The series stars Jurnee Smollett-Bell, Aldis Hodge, Alano Miler and Christopher Meloni.

Douglass is one of the many historical figures featured on the series. Aisha Hinds will portray Harriett Tubman, who helped slaves escape during the Civil War.

Netflix engineers rescue Luke Cage after service falters

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Superhero Luke Cage can thank Netflix’s engineers for coming to his rescue.

The streaming service was down for more than two hours Saturday, one day after the debut of a live-action series with the Marvel Comics hero.

In a Twitter message posted at about 3:30 p.m. EDT Saturday, Netflix acknowledged it was aware of streaming issues and was working quickly to solve them.

Netflix users had begun complaining on Twitter that the site was down about a half-hour earlier.

Shortly before 6 p.m. EDT, Netflix tweeted that not all superheroes wear capes, adding, “Engineers to the rescue. We’re back.”

Netflix did not immediately respond to an email request for details on the problem, including how widespread it was or its cause.

‘Wonder Woman’ comics writer reveals character is gay

The writer of the reborn “Wonder Woman” comics has revealed that the character is gay.

Greg Rucka tells Comicosity that since Wonder Woman comes from the fictional all-female island nation of Themyscira, she “has been in love and had relationships with other women.”

Rucka isn’t ruling out the potential for a romantic relationship with Steve Trevor, Wonder Woman’s love interest in previous incarnations of the character.

Wonder Woman returned to the big screen this year in “Batman v. Superman.” A standalone film starring Gal Gadot is set to hit theaters in June of next year.

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—The Taiwanese dark comedy “Godspeed” earned eight nominations for next month’s Golden Horse Awards, which were announced in Taipei on Saturday.

The nominations for “Godspeed” included best film, best director, best actor, best supporting actor and best cinematography. The movie, which stars veteran Hong Kong actor Michael Hui and Taiwanese talk show host Lin Yu-chih, is about a taxi driver who unknowingly becomes the driver for a drug dealer. The two go on a trip to southern Taiwan and encounter mishaps and adventures along the way. Hui was nominated as lead actor and Lin for supporting actor.

The romance drama “Soul Mate,” by up-and-coming Hong Kong director Derek Tsang, received seven nominations. Adapted from a popular novel, the film is about two young girls in China who became best friends but later fall in love with the same guy. Tsang was nominated as best director and co-stars Zhou Dongyu and Ma Sichun both received best actress nominations.

AP

In this Oct. 7, 2012, file photo, Hong Kong director Derek Tsang is greeted by fans after the Open Talks to promote his move “The Thieves” during the Busan International Film Festival in Busan, South Korea.

“The Road to Mandalay,” ‘’The Summer Is Gone” and “Soul on a String” received six nominations apiece.

The Golden Horse Awards, which will be handed out Nov. 26 in Taipei, are one of the most prestigious film awards for Mandarin-language cinema, with movies from Taiwan, China and Hong Kong vying for honors.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Police stop Schwarzenegger riding bike in Munich station

BERLIN (AP)—A police officer in Germany got himself an unusual souvenir after finding none other than Arnold Schwarzenegger breaking the rules at Munich’s main train station. Federal police say the officer stopped Schwarzenegger’s bodyguard and then the movie star and former California governor himself riding bikes Friday along the station’s platforms. Police said Saturday that Schwarzenegger apologized, explaining he was having trouble walking, and offered to take a picture with the officer. A police statement noted that “after brief small talk with the federal police officer, the ‘Terminator’ left the main station through the north entrance.” It said Schwarzenegger walked away, pushing his bike.

NBC drops plans for mail-order bride sitcom amid protests

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC says it has dropped plans for a sitcom about a widower who orders a mail-order bride from the Philippines. Protests had greeted the network’s decision last week to develop “Mail Order Family,” with an online petition drawing more than 12,000 signers as of Saturday. In a statement, NBCUniversal said it bought the comedy pitch with the understanding it would tell creator Jackie Clarke’s real-life experience of being raised by a “strong Filipina stepmother.” The writers and producers have “taken the sensitivity to the initial concept to heart” and won’t move forward with the project, the network said. Gabriela USA, a women’s rights group, circulated the anti-show petition on Moveon.org. The group said the mail-order bride industry exploits and traffics in poor women and condemns NBC for “making light” of the issue.

Former ‘Power Rangers’ actor pleads not guilty to murder

LANCASTER, California (AP)—A former “Power Rangers” actor charged with stabbing his California roommate to death with a sword has pleaded not guilty to murder. City News Service says Ricardo Medina entered the plea in Lancaster. He could face 26 years to life in prison if convicted. Prosecutors say Medina stabbed Joshua Sutter several times in the abdomen last year at their house in Green Valley, a mountain town north of Los Angeles. The two allegedly were arguing over Medina’s girlfriend. Authorities say after the attack, Medina called the emergency dispatcher and waited for police to arrive. Medina played the Red Lion Wild Force Ranger on “Power Rangers Wild Force” in 2002. He was the voice of Deker on “Power Rangers Samurai” in 2011 and 2012.

Money-grabbing co-worker drives colleague into hiding

DEAR ABBY: A woman I'll call Betty Jo works in my office. We are only casual acquaintances. We speak in passing when time permits, but she has never invited me to lunch with her or suggested any interaction outside the job.

About three months ago, Betty Jo mentioned that she and her husband were planning a renewal of wedding vows and said she was going to invite me. In my mailbox at work, I found a poorly photocopied version of a formal invitation, with the following handwritten at the top in large block letters: CASH GIFTS ARE CHEERFULLY ACCEPTED!

I did not plan on attending, since I felt that if Betty Jo really wanted me, she could have at least sent me an original invitation to my home.

Two weeks ago, while knitting during my lunch break, Betty Jo came up to me and asked about the item I was working on. She then informed me that since I hadn't yet given her a gift, I could complete my knitting project and give that to her! Abby, I was flabbergasted. It's a custom-designed angora sweater, a gift for a cherished friend.

I mumbled something about being "busy as a bee" with projects to complete, and since that day I have gone out of my way to avoid any contact with Betty Jo. I've even managed to find an office with a door that locks in which to take my breaks.

First, am I behind the times or is requesting money on an invitation a new trend? Second, why would this rude and clueless woman request such an elaborate gift from someone she barely knows? Third, how do I handle future interactions with her at the office? Please don't reveal my name, city or state.

BOTHERED AND BEWILDERED

DEAR BOTHERED: You are not behind the times. To request a gift of money (cash, yet!) is still regarded by most people as bad manners. Your co-worker asked you for the sweater you were knitting because she either has a lot of nerve, or doesn't know any better.

Please stop trying to hide from her. You don't have to feel defensive for not attending her renewal ceremony or giving her a gift. Just maintain a polite and consistent distance, and continue to socialize with others as you always have.

DEAR ABBY: I am 50 and about to re-enter the dating scene. I'm financially stable and look forward to a nice retirement in the future. I hope to find a woman for a lasting relationship. However, I would like her to also be financially stable and building her own retirement fund.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

When is it appropriate to ask questions about someone's financial security and retirement funds/goals?

SECURE TEXAN

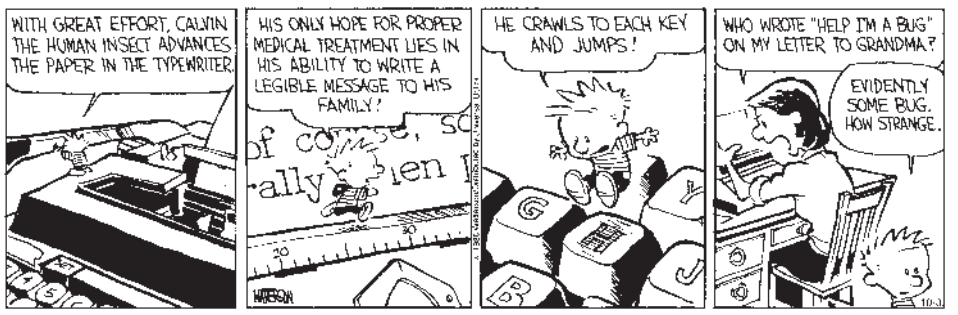
DEAR SECURE TEXAN: Good question. I don't think it would be appropriate to ask on a first date, so consider raising the subject right around the time you start talking about sex and politics.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WITH GREAT EFFORT, CALVIN THE HUMAN INSECT ADVANCES THE PAPER IN THE TYPEWRITER.
HIS ONLY HOPE FOR PROPER MEDICAL TREATMENT LIES IN HIS ABILITY TO WRITE A LEGIBLE MESSAGE TO HIS FAMILY!
HE CRAWLS TO EACH KEY AND JUMPS!
WHO WROTE "HELP I'M A BUG" ON MY LETTER TO GRANDMA?
EVIDENTLY SOME BUG. HOW STRANGE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

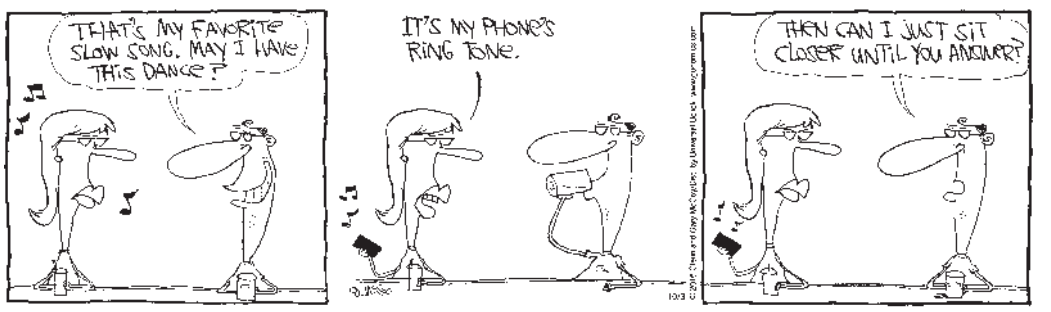
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

YOU'VE BEEN ASKED TO JOIN A LAP-SWIMMING GANG?
YES.
THE "THIRD LANE SHARKS" KIND OF RUN THE PLACE.
I'M JUST NOT SURE IF I SHOULD DO IT. THEY GET UP TO SOME BAD HIJINKS.
AT THE POOL.
DON'T LAUGH, LAURA. THEY HID SOME POOR GUYS FLIPPERS LAST WEEK.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

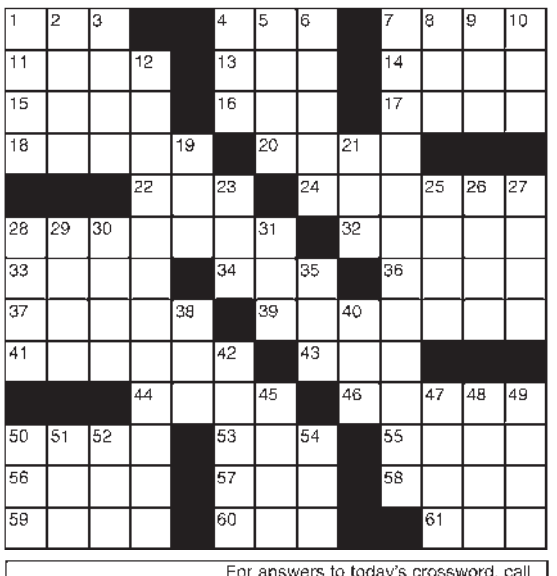
ACROSS
1 Bit of butter
4 Poached breakfast item
7 Sharif of "Funny Girl"
11 Atop
13 Second person
14 "Damn Yankees" vamp
15 Apportion
16 Immigrant's subj.
17 Remove, as a hat
18 Roam predatorily
20 Soccer star Mia
22 Sweetie
24 Vineyard harvest
28 Ghoulish
32 Entrap
33 Teensy bit
34 "Entourage" role
36 Sagacious
37 Phi Beta —
39 Reacts to sun glare
41 Black Sea port
43 Tax form ID
44 Bee's home
46 Chopin piece
50 "Help Me" singer Mitchell
53 Yalie
55 List-ending abbr.
56 Say it's so
57 Scooted
58 Crashes (into)
59 Foreshadow
60 Potent stick
61 Haw preceder

DOWN
1 Shoe style
2 Unoriginal one
3 Dorothy's dog
4 Storm center
5 "Holy cow!"
6 Soviet labor camp
7 His arrival might leave you cold?
8 Cattle call
9 TV alien
10 U.K. fliers
12 The Granite State
19 Arced tennis shot
21 "— Doubtfire"
23 Gun lobby org.
25 Ache
26 Formerly, once
27 Beholds
28 Shark variety
29 Slightly
30 Deal (with)
31 Verbal stalls
35 Mensa stats
38 "— was saying ..."
40 Exploit
42 Sidestep
45 Panache
47 Hexagonal state
48 Title for Judi Dench
49 Differently
50 Poke
51 Ab — (from the start)
52 Homer's neighbor
54 Bankbook abbr.

Solution time: 26 mins.

N	A	B	O	B		R	H	O		S	O	S		
A	T	O	N	F		I	C	U		T	V	A		
F	F	R	I	F		B	O	R	G	I	A	S		
		S	T	R	E	E	T		E	L	L	S		
T	L	C		S	T	Y		A	N	T	S	Y		
O	O	H	S		H	E	I	S	T					
T	A	T	T	O	O		B	A	L	B	O	A		
				N	I	S	K	S		E	O	N	S	
B	A	S	I	L		E	E	L		R	O	E		
A	G	E	D		A	R	N	O	L	D				
B	O	R	E	D	O	M		Y	I	E	L	D		
E	N	G		U	N	I		A	E	R	I	E		
L	Y	E		N	E	T		L	J	S	T	Y		

Friday's answer 10 - 3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Seann William Scott, 40; Lena Headey, 43; Gwen Stefani, 47; Chubby Checker, 75.

Happy Birthday: Keeping up with all the changes going on around you will be a chore. Show discipline and do your best. It will be easy to lose control if you let anger set in or give in to the pressure or bullying that develops. Don't be afraid to do things differently. Your versatility will keep others guessing and help you avoid interference. Your numbers are 5, 12, 22, 26, 30, 39, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Keep an open mind, but don't neglect to see the pitfalls in other people's suggestions. Being responsible for your actions will help you move in the right direction. Keep an eye on the big picture, but take baby steps. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Express your feelings openly and follow through by taking action. You can improve your relationships with others through honesty, asking for help and offering incentives. Romance will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Look for a reasonable opportunity. A pie-in-the-sky idea will not turn out as planned. Be smart and willing to do the legwork required to get the results you want. Don't expect a free pass or a handout. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): A personal change will do you good. Altering your image or venturing down a new path in life will give you the boost you need to complete your mission. Romance is on the rise and will brighten your day. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Keep an open mind, but don't let anyone use emotional manipulation in order to take advantage of your generosity. A disciplined attitude will help you bypass a difficult situation at home. A professional change looks promising. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): A physical change will boost your morale and get you geared up to make positive changes to the way you move forward. Look for a unique way to use your skills and you will come up with a moneymaking alternative. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You'll be prone to extravagance, indulgence and giving in to temptation. Think hard before you agree to something that will cause problems with someone you work with. Keeping the peace will be in your best interest. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Find a way to use your natural talents to command attention and draw interest to what you have to offer. Use your imagination and work with people who have something to contribute, and then see what transpires. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Someone will try to compromise you if you share too much information about your plans. Focus on making the changes that you can implement without interference. Once they are completed, you'll be free to promote your accomplishments. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): An unusual opportunity will develop that can change your current professional or financial direction. Express your feelings to someone you love and it will encourage you to make future plans for two. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take care of your responsibilities. Evaluate personal finances and set a budget that will help you save for something special. Positive changes will only occur if you instigate what you want to see happen. Don't get angry; get moving. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Consider the risk factor of your plans. Luck is in your corner, and with a little prying, you will discover a winning situation that will help you get ahead. Romance is highlighted and will accompany a celebration you attend. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charming, insightful and practical. You are versatile and loyal.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9		4				6		8
		1	8		6	5		
8			3		5			9
	9	7				2	4	
				1				
	8	2				9	6	
7			4		2			6
		3	1		8	4		
6		8				3		2

Difficulty Level ★ 10/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	6	3	7	8	5	2	9
3	7	2	4	9	5	8	1	6
8	5	9	2	6	1	3	7	4
9	3	5	6	4	7	2	8	1
1	6	7	9	8	2	4	3	5
2	8	4	1	5	3	6	9	7
7	4	3	5	2	9	1	6	8
5	2	8	7	1	6	9	4	3
6	9	1	8	3	4	7	5	2

Difficulty level: ★★★★ 9/26

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

THE FIJI PARROTFINCH Solution: 9 letters

E	B	I	N	U	E	V	A	T	S	B	U	R	H	S
S	M	A	S	K	S	R	S	F	E	R	I	C	E	E
T	A	S	T	T	I	Ⓑ	I	T	A	L	O	I	S	B
R	T	M	E	S	A	R	Ⓛ	M	A	U	R	D	E	Y
I	U	A	E	K	E	T	O	Ⓤ	R	R	N	A	A	L
L	R	L	C	T	L	N	I	T	Ⓔ	A	K	S	C	F
D	E	L	A	U	G	I	S	B	L	S	A	D	T	S
I	J	I	F	O	A	H	W	S	A	W	T	N	A	R
D	L	R	O	C	I	U	I	S	A	H	S	A	T	E
S	E	S	T	P	I	P	N	N	E	P	O	L	A	B
D	E	I	F	W	A	U	G	A	O	L	O	S	D	M
E	V	L	A	I	C	O	S	T	V	T	R	S	R	U
E	T	T	R	E	E	B	A	M	B	O	O	A	O	C
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Americans take 3-point lead at Ryder Cup

CHASKA, Minn. (AP)—The Americans are making all the right moves in this Ryder Cup.

Even Tiger Woods.

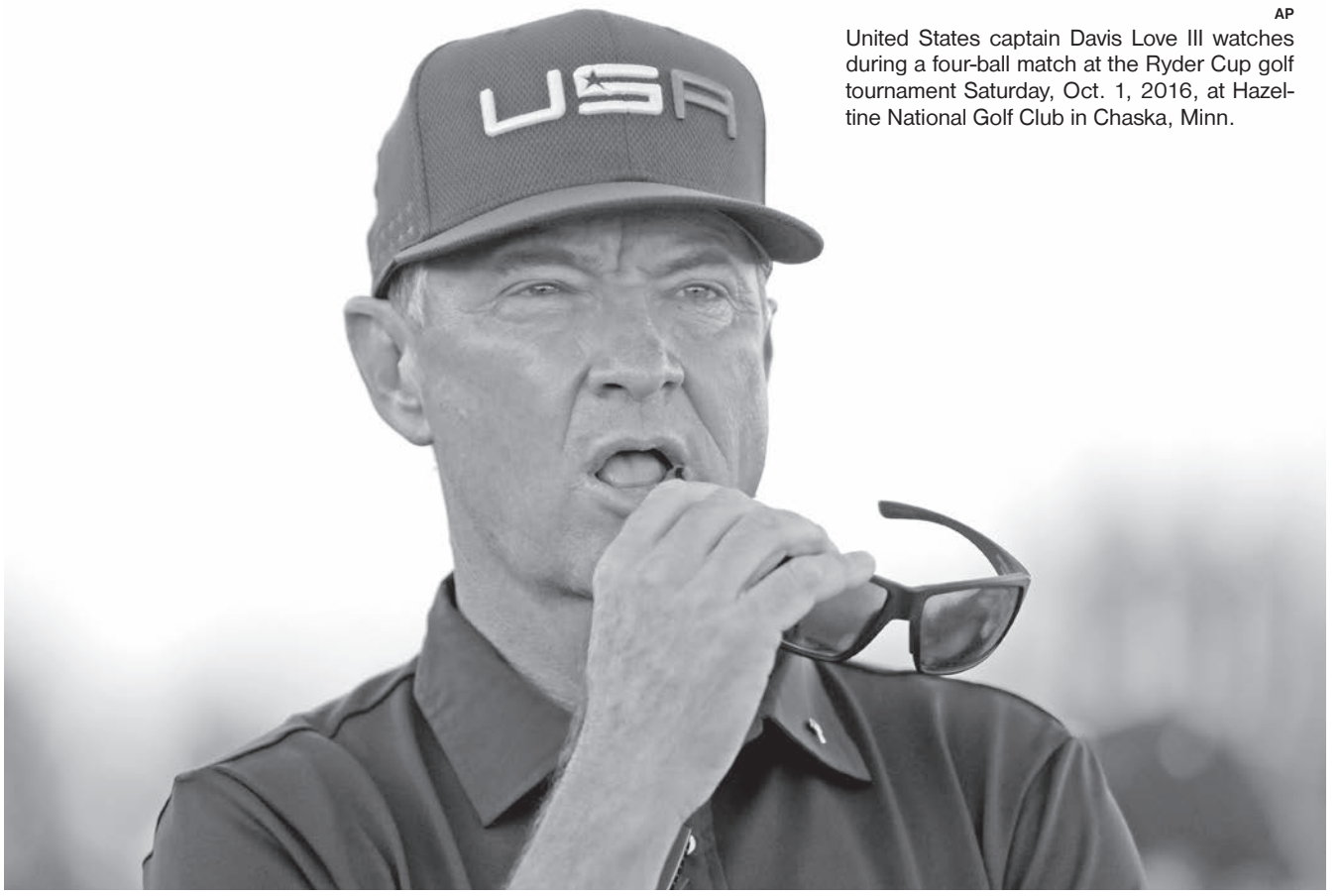
Europe was riding the momentum as it inched within one point Saturday at Hazeltine. U.S. captain Davis Love III heard conflicting ideas on the radio and by text message from his assistant captains, all of them weighing in with the best lineup for the final session of team matches. The question was Patrick Reed and Jordan Spieth, the only Americans who had yet to sit out.

"I finally just said to Tiger, 'Are we playing them or are we sitting them?' He said, 'No, you have to send them back out there,'" Love said.

Reed delivered another moment sure to burnish his growing Ryder Cup reputation.

He was at his bullish best in the anchor match with Jordan Spieth, taking over with great shots and chest-thumping cheers that set the tone for his team and put the Americans on the verge—again—of winning back the cup.

"He's Captain America for us," Spieth said after their 2-and-1 victory over Henrik Stenson and Justin Rose, securing a 9 1/2-6 1/2 lead.



AP

United States captain Davis Love III watches during a four-ball match at the Ryder Cup golf tournament Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn.

The Americans need only five points from 12 singles matches to win the Ryder Cup for the first time since 2008, and only the third time in the last two decades.

Their biggest challenge now might be history.

They led 10-6 four years ago at Medinah when Europe put together a staggering display of putting and produced the largest comeback by a visiting team in Ryder Cup history. The Europeans refer to that as the "Miracle at Medinah," and they might need another one Sunday.

"We're one closer than we were at Medinah," Rose said. "It's going to be a monumental challenge tomorrow. We're going to put out our lineup and we're going to look at each other man-to-man tomorrow. It's going to be eyeball-to-eyeball on the first tee, no partners, no friends out there on the golf course. Just go out and try to put a point on the board. That's everybody's mission."

The raucous and at times rude crowd at Hazeltine won't have to wait long to get fired up.

Leading off the singles is Reed against Rory McIlroy, who along with Belgian rookie Thomas Pieters has done his part to keep Europe close. McIlroy and Pieters were undefeated as a tandem, combining to go 11-under par in 17 holes of a 3-and-1 victory over Dustin Johnson and Brooks Koepka, the lone European point in fourballs.

McIlroy shouted "C'MON!" with every putt, even staring at the crowd and daring them to hurl insults, boo or throw anything else his way.

"It's a tough environment for us to come and play in. We expect that," McIlroy said. "It's same for the U.S. guys when they come to play in Europe. You have to keep your concentration out there. It's been a long day and sometimes emotions run high. ... The more they shouted, the better we played.

"I hope they shout at us all day tomorrow."

European captain Darren Clarke described the opening singles match as "mouthwatering" for the crowd.

"I know for a fact that he can't wait to get on that tee tomorrow morning," Clarke said.

Most painful for Clarke was watching his best friend and captain's pick, Lee Westwood, miss crucial short putts on the back nine to cost Europe a valuable point.

Westwood and Masters champion Danny Willett never trailed until they both made bogey on the par-3 17th. Westwood missed a 5-foot par putt to stay all square, and then with a chance to at least earn a halve, he badly missed a 2-foot birdie on the final hole to give J.B. Holmes and Ryan Moore a 1-up victory.

Phil Mickelson, in his 11th straight Ryder Cup, showed he can deliver on the golf course as well as he can run a task force meeting. Lefty produced timely wedges and key putts down the stretch as he and Matt Kuchar combined for nine birdies in a 2-and-1 victory over Sergio Garcia and Martin Kaymer.

The final hour turned solid red on the scoreboard, right when it looked like a putt or two in Europe's favor could have made it a one-point deficit instead of three.

Now, Europe needs another big comeback.

Rose and Stenson had a front-row seat to an exhibition by Reed, who whipped the crowd into even more of a frenzy than it already showed. One down after four holes, Reed played the next four holes in 5 under, including a wedge he holed from the sixth fairway for eagle, winning them all for a 3-up lead.

Their victory was even more important considering they let a sure point get away in foursomes Saturday morning, leading 4 up with six holes to play until Garcia and Rafa Cabrera Bello rallied to earn a halve. Europe only trailed by one point going into the afternoon.

Love said there was no need to bring up Medinah in the team room Saturday night. This whole process has been about looking forward and starting over.

Europe can only hope recent history repeats itself.

"We're going to have to work hard and play very, very well tomorrow," Clarke said. "It's been done before from a worse position. We have a big task ahead of us but the guys are capable of doing it."

AJ Green has big game as Bengals dominate Dolphins, 22-7

CINCINNATI (AP)—For most of the game, A.J. Green piled up more yards than the entire Miami Dolphins offense in a virtuoso performance. As an encore, he thrilled the crowd by juggling some Florida citrus.

The Bengals receiver followed his disappointing game with a dominating one—173 yards and a touchdown—and a Cincinnati defense that was inspired by Vontaze Burfict's return clamped down on the Dolphins for a 22-7 victory Thursday night.

The Bengals (2-2) rebounded from a 29-17 home loss to Denver on Sunday with a solid all-around game against a depleted team.

Green led the way, beating the Dolphins (1-3) on every type of route . He was upset with himself after he dropped a pivotal third-down pass and failed to make an impact against the Broncos.

"I hold myself to a very high standard," said Green, who had 10 catches. "I know what I'm capable of. Last week I didn't perform to that level. I had to refocus on a short week."

During the first three quarters, Green had 166 yards on catches while Miami had 152 total yards. The Bengals' season-long problem of stalling out near the goal line forced them to settle for Mike Nugent's season-high five field goals.

AP

Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver A.J. Green (18) scores a touchdown during the first half of an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins, Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016, in Cincinnati.

Afterward, Green and Andy Dalton appeared on the postgame show, and the receiver entertained the dozens of Bengals fans who stayed around by smoothly juggling three oranges at the interview desk.

"Any time he was one-on-one, he was able to make the play," Dalton said.

The Dolphins were missing four starting offensive linemen, two linebackers, running back Arian Foster and tight end Jordan Cameron. They had one big play—Ryan Tannehill threw a 74-yard touchdown pass to Kenny Stills—but couldn't do anything else on offense.

"We've got to get it fixed and quick, and by that I mean Monday," Tannehill said. "We're kind of in a dark spot right now. It's squarely on our shoulders."

The Bengals' defense expected to get a lift from Burfict's return. The volatile linebacker was suspended by the NFL for the first three games because of his illegal hits. He got a loud ovation when he ran onto the field during introductions wearing a baseball cap. Burfict knocked down a pass and had three tackles.

"He's amazing," end Carlos Dunlap said. "Did you see the plays he made? Those aren't plays you can coach. He came off his couch and played great. It's good to have him back."

Mostly, it was Green's show. He caught a 51-yard pass off Dalton's scramble in the first half, and had a 43-yard catch that set up another field goal in the third quarter for a 19-7 lead.

A large fan banner in the upper deck at Paul Brown Stadium honored Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez, who died with two friends in a boat crash early Sunday near Miami Beach. The banner read: "Jose 16 Heaven's Bright."

Mets beat Phillies to clinch top NL wild card

PHILADELPHIA (AL)—The New York Mets clinched a playoff spot Saturday, beating the Philadelphia Phillies 5-3 to secure the top National League wild card.

The defending NL champions will host San Francisco or St. Louis on Wednesday night at Citi Field, with the winner advancing to face the Chicago Cubs.

James Loney hit a two-run homer to back Bartolo Colon (15-8), and Jeurys Familia closed for his major league-high 51st save. T.J. Rivera, Jose Reyes and Asdrubal Cabrera each had an RBI single.

The only other time the Mets made the postseason in consecutive years was 1999-2000. New York won the NL East last season and went all the way to the World Series before losing to Kansas City.

By clinching with one day to spare in the regular season, the Mets can save All-Star ace Noah Syndergaard for the wild-card game.

Ryan Howard hit a two-run homer in what was likely his penultimate game with the Phillies, who have dropped six straight. Patrick Schuster (0-1) took the loss.

AP
New York Mets pitcher Noah Syndergaard, right, sprays his teammates with champagne in the clubhouse after the Mets secured a wild card playoff spot by defeating the Philadelphia Phillies 5-3 in a baseball game, Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, in Philadelphia.

Giants 3, Dodgers 0

In San Francisco, Giants rookie Ty Blach outpitched ace Clayton Kershaw, and San Francisco held its lead for the last NL playoff spot going into the final day of the regular season.

The Giants stayed one game ahead of St. Louis for the second wild card.

Blach (1-0) earned his first big league victory, pitching eight innings of three-hit ball. He struck out six and walked one in his second start in the majors, and also got his first two hits.

Cardinals 4, Pirates 3

In St. Louis, Jedd Gyorko hit a go-ahead home run in the eighth inning, Matt Holliday provided another big boost and St. Louis pushed the playoff race to the final day.

The Cardinals trail San Francisco by one game for the second NL wild card.

Gyorko's 30th homer came off Felipe Rivero (1-6).

Blue Jays 4, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Ezequiel Carrera hit a ninth-inning sacrifice fly to give Toronto the lead after Boston tied it in the eighth on a balk.

The Blue Jays moved into a tie with Baltimore for the top spot in the AL wild-card race. The Blue Jays and Orioles each have 88 wins with one game to play, and Toronto owns the tie-breaker.

Yankees 7, Orioles 3

In New York, Tyler Austin tied the score with a seventh-inning home run, Austin Romine and Brett Gardner drove in two runs each in the eighth and New York rallied from a three-run deficit to stall Baltimore's playoff push.

Thanks to Detroit's loss Saturday night, however, Baltimore (88-73) can clinch an AL wild card with a win Sunday at Yankee Stadium.

Braves 5, Tigers 3

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman and Nick Markakis homered, rookie Aaron Blair had a career-high 10 strikeouts and last-place Atlanta damaged Detroit's playoff hopes.

The Tigers dropped 1 1/2 games out of the second AL wild-card spot. They need a win Sunday and a loss by Baltimore or Toronto to avoid postseason elimination.

The Tigers will have ace Justin Verlander on the mound Sunday. Depending on the playoff scenario, Detroit's regular season might extend with a makeup home game Monday against Cleveland.

Nationals 2, Marlins 1

In Washington, Nationals rookie Trea Turner hit his 13th homer, Tanner Roark tuned up for the playoffs with 5 2/3 innings of one-run ball and Washington beat Miami while clinching home-field advantage in the NL Division Series.

NL East champion Washington's third trip to the postseason in five years will begin Friday in the nation's capital against the NL West champion Los Angeles Dodgers, with Max Scherzer slated to face Clayton Kershaw.

Indians 6, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Francisco Lindor hit a two-out, two-run double during an eighth-inning rally to help Cleveland beat Kansas City .

Kevin McCarthy replaced Matt Strahm (2-2) with a runner on and walked the bases loaded before Lindor's double over third base.

Reds 7, Cubs 4

In Cincinnati, Jon Lester failed to become a 20-game winner, struggling for the first time since mid-July as the Reds pulled away to a victory over what's likely to be the Cubs' lineup for the first game of the playoffs.

Lester (19-5) gave up five runs in five innings, including Eugenio Suarez's two-run homer and a pair of RBI by Joey Votto. The left-hander hadn't allowed five runs in a start since July 9.

Rays 4, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Colby Lewis lost his fifth straight start in the right-hander's tuneup for the playoffs, allowing Corey Dickerson's three-run homer in Tampa Bay's victory.

All four runs off Lewis (6-5) came in the third inning and were unearned.

The Rangers rested most of their starters a night after the AL West winners clinched home-field advantage throughout the playoffs. Texas (95-66) remains a win shy of the franchise record.

Twins 6, White Sox 0

In Chicago, Byron Buxton and Jorge Polanco each hit a two-run home run to send James Shields to a major league high-tying 19th loss.

The Twins got 6 1/3 innings of three-hit ball from Hector Santiago (13-10) in their third win in 14 games.

Astros 3, Angels 0

In Anaheim, Collin McHugh pitched three-hit ball over 7 2/3 innings to help Houston beat Los Angeles.

Tyler Skaggs (3-4) was removed after 1 2/3 innings. Ken Giles converted his 15th save.

Brewers 4, Rockies 3

In Denver, Chris Carter hit a tiebreaking home run with two outs in the 10th inning, leading Milwaukee over Colorado.

Carter's 41st homer of the season came on a 3-2 pitch against Adam Ottavino (1-3).

The Rockies tied it against Tyler Thornburg (7-5) in the ninth on pinch-hitter Tom Murphy's RBI double.

Diamondbacks 9, Padres 5

In Phoenix, Yasmany Tomas hit a three-run homer as part of Arizona's five-run first inning in a win.

The Diamondbacks stole six bases, including a franchise record-tying four in the first inning.

Diamondbacks starter Archie Bradley (8-9) struck out a career high 11 in seven innings.

Athletics 9, Mariners 8. 10 innings

In Seattle, Joey Wendle hit a tiebreaking RBI double off Edwin Diaz in the top of the 10th inning, and Oakland ended Seattle's playoff hopes.

Nelson Cruz's comebacker with a man on in the bottom of the inning deflected off pitcher Ryan Madson (6-7) almost directly to first base, preventing Ben Gamel from scoring from second base.

Boston stars come out to wish Ortiz farewell

BOSTON (AP)—David Ortiz is down to his final regular-season game, and it will be an important one for the Boston Red Sox.

With their 40-year-old slugger heading into retirement, the Red Sox could use a victory on Sunday to help their chances of earning home-field advantage in their AL Division Series against Cleveland.

"Obviously, we would like the home-field advantage," Boston utilityman Brock Holt said after a 4-3 loss to Toronto. "We'll come ready to go. ... Hopefully we'll play that first game here."

The Indians (93-67) would open at home if they win their last two games, or even one if Boston (93-68) loses its finale against Toronto on Sunday.

One night after the Blue Jays blew a 3-1 lead and gave up Ortiz's game-winning homer, Toronto's J.A. Happ seemed poised to pick up his 21st win.

But with the Blue Jays leading 3-2 in the eighth, Mookie Betts doubled, took third on Brock Holt's hard-hit double-play ball and then scored to tie it when closer Roberto Osuna balked in the winning run.

In the ninth, though, Ezequiel Carrera delivered a sacrifice fly and Toronto won to move into a tie with Baltimore for the top spot in the AL wild-card race.

"We had the lead and the tying run scores on balk. I was worried about the baseball gods," said manager John Gibbons, whose team is tied with the Orioles at 88 wins with one to play. "We want to enjoy this one. They're hard to come by."

Toronto owns the tiebreaker with Baltimore. Detroit is also still in the wild-card hunt.

Red Sox closer Craig Kimbrel (2-6) has losses in two of his last three appearances, issuing six walks while completing two innings. Since Sept. 22, his ERA has risen from 2.52 to 3.40.

The 21-year-old Osuna (4-3) retired the Red Sox in order in the ninth to recover from his sixth blown save of the season.

Hockey great Bobby Orr, NFL Hall of Famer Andre Tippett and the entire current Boston Celtics roster joined David Ortiz on the field at Fenway Park on Saturday night to help celebrate Big Papi on his way into retirement.

The ceremony before the Red Sox played Toronto also featured former patients at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, who Ortiz helped through his work for the Jimmy Fund. And Boston Marathon bombing victims also joined the sports stars on the field to thank Ortiz for his defiant and inspirational speech following the 2013 finish line attacks.

The basketball players all wore Celtics jerseys with Ortiz's No. 34. Many of them asked the Red Sox designated hitter to sign their shirts, and several posed for selfies with him.

Ortiz has said he will retire at the end of the season, and the Red Sox planned celebrations for the final weekend series at Fenway. Friday night's ceremony included beneficiaries of the David Ortiz Children's Fund; Sunday is expected to feature Ortiz's former teammates.

As they have much of the season, the Fenway fans rose to a standing ovation when Ortiz came to the plate in the first. With a runner on first, he worked the count full against Happ and drew a walk.

It was the 1,319th walk of Ortiz's career, tying him with Tony Phillips for 40th on baseball's career list.

Ortiz was tagged out going from first to second when Betts followed with a grounder.

FC Dallas beats Galaxy 1-0, remains atop standings

FRISCO, Texas (AP)—Walker Zimmerman scored in the first half to help FC Dallas beat the Los Angeles Galaxy 1-0 on Saturday night to remain atop the MLS standings.

The victory ended a three-game winless run for Dallas, which leads the Supporters' Shield race by five points. Los Angeles has lost two straight after a six-game undefeated run, but clinched a playoff spot due to other results in the Western Conference.

Zimmerman was left unmarked on Mauro Diaz's corner kick and he headed it home in the 39th minute. He earlier just missed a glancing header in the 25th.

Steven Gerrard missed a chance to put Galaxy in front in the 18th when he shot wide after a counterattacking move.

Colorado beat Portland 1-0 to secure a spot in the playoffs for the first time since 2013, with Seabstien Le Toux scoring the winner in the 63rd.

With four games to go, Colorado is five points behind in the Western Conference and has the best chance of the remaining contenders to surpass Dallas for the Supporters' Shield.

At Harrison, New Jersey, the New York Red Bulls beat the Philadelphia 3-2 to join New York City FC in first place on the Eastern Conference standings with two games remaining.

Dax McCarty capped the scoring in the 66th after being involved in both of the Red Bulls' earlier goals.

Toronto dropped to third spot in the Eastern Conference with a 2-1 home loss to D.C. United, which is unbeaten in five games.

New England remained in contention for a playoff spot with a 3-1 win over Sporting KC, staying in seventh spot in the Eastern Conference just two points behind sixth-place Montreal.

The Columbus Crew beat the Chicago Fire 3-0 and San Jose head a 2-1 win over Real Salt Lake in other games

AP

FC Dallas defender Matt Hedges (24) heads the ball over LA Galaxy midfielder Sebastian Lletget (17) during an MLS soccer match Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, in Frisco, Texas.

76ers' Simmons breaks bone in his right foot

By DAN GELSTON
AP SPORTS WRITER

Ben Simmons has a broken bone in his right foot and its unknown how long the No. 1 overall pick will be sidelined for the Philadelphia 76ers.

Simmons was injured Friday during the final training camp scrimmage at Stockton University in New Jersey. The Sixers said Simmons rolled an ankle, and X-rays and an MRI revealed a fractured fifth metatarsal bone.

The Australian forward played at LSU last season. He missed time early during his stay with the Tigers while waiting for an ankle injury to heal, and also left an NBA Summer League contest in July after suffering cramps in both legs.

Simmons' injury is the latest blow to a franchise that has been beset in recent years by injuries to their players. Joel Embiid, the No. 3 overall pick in 2014, has yet to play because of surgeries on his right foot. Nerlens Noel missed his rookie year in 2013 with a torn ACL. Jahlil Okafor had his rookie season cut short with season-ending knee surgery on his right knee. He sat out practices this week because he still experienced soreness in the knee.

It's become a bit of a theme in Philly the last few seasons, ending with last season's 10-72 mark that earned them the No. 1 pick.

LEE

From Page 28

land last Saturday. The Kiwi went on to foil Lee's finals bid after coasting to a 6-1, 6-0 win in their Final Four showdown. Harvey, however, faltered in the finals when Australia's Lisa Mays won the battle of the Top 2 seeds in the title match, 6-3, 6-0.

Meanwhile, in the doubles event, Lee and Palau's Ayana Rengiil prevailed in their first two matches to advance to the semifinals. The two Pacific Oceania players gained a Final Four berth after slipping past sisters Paige and Lauren Alter in quarterfinals, which went to a super-tiebreaker third set.

The third-ranked Lee and Rengiil, who downed New Zealand's Amily Suga and Australia's Angelina Esabella Teakaraanga in the first round, 6-0, 7-5, dropped the opening set, 3-6, of their quarterfinal game, but regrouped in the second with a similar 6-3 triumph. Lee and Rengiil then picked up where they left off in the super-tiebreaker third set, winning four of the last four games, 10-4, to move into the semis.

In the Final Four, Lee had a familiar opponent in Harvey, who teamed up with compatriot Janvhi Clark. The Kiwis ended up winning the semis game via sweep, 6-3, 6-2, and took the doubles crown following a 7-6 (1) and 6-4 victory against No. 1 seeds Mays and Kalachova.

MGNEL

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the clock, which read at 27 seconds.

Aguon hit his first charity, but missed the second. De Guzman tapped the ball out to Teregeyo, who then gave the ball up to Angelo Hernaez at the right sideline. Fortunately, Hernaez was caught stepping on the line, returning the leather to MGNEL. Teregeyo went for the inbound and spotted a cutting Aguon from the left wing for the bucket, increasing MGNEL's lead to 4, 89-85, 14 seconds left on the clock.

5-Star sued for time and when the game resumed, Hernaez drove strong to the basket and was fouled. He drilled his first free throw, but made an airball in his second attempt, prompting his teammate to give up another foul after MGNEL got the rebound.

R.J. Paragados trooped to the foul line and went 1-for-2, hitting his second charity, 7 seconds remaining in the match. 5-Star called another timeout and Pineda was forced to take a triple at the resumption of the match and missed. Hernaez then got the rebound, but his undergoal stab was block by Paragados.

The ball went to the baseline with 5 seconds left on the clock. MGNEL questioned the remaining seconds, as the clock did not run although table officials pressed it. The referees then cut the time to 3 seconds and MGNEL was awarded possession as the ball hit Hernaez last after the Pagarados' block. MGNEL went on to milk the clock even before 5-Star managed to give up another foul.

Meanwhile, Saipan Apparel also pulled off a close win over the San Antonio Patriots, 62-59, in last Wednesday's second game at the San Antonio basketball court.

Saipan Apparel took its second victory in as many games and outclassed the Patriots after knocking in crucial free throws. The winning team scored its last 6 points from the foul line with Jerome Norita making four free throws, while Ed Diaz and Joshua Andrew had one apiece.

The Men's Outdoor League was played at the Ada Gym last Friday due to rain that made the San Antonio court unplayable.

Friday Game

MGNEL 90 — Aguon 28, Laguindam 15, Teregeyo 18, Tabora 14, Paragados 6, De Guzman 6, Bondoc 4, Isip 2.

5-Star 88 — Munar 34, Cabanas 16, Pineda 15, Hernaez 12, Babauta 9, Estanislao 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-18, 35-26, 53-55, 76-76, 90-88 (OT).

Wednesday Game

Saipan Apparel 62 — Andrew 17, Norita 12, Diaz 11, Lizama 6, Teregeyo 4, Rangamar 4, Simile 3.

Patriots 59 — Galarse 11, Aranda 10, De Guzman 7, Cadiang 7, Rabasto 7, Kintaro 6, Arciaga 5, Deleon Guerrero 4, Flores 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-10, 29-21, 43-27, 62-59.

SSC

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ter tallying 2:18.56, which his new PBT. Welch entered last Saturday's tournament with a seed time of 2:25.73.

Other PBT getters in the 200m freestyle were SSC's Jinie Thompson (3:01.49), Jasmin Frink (3:25.58), Jinnosuke Suzuki (2:24.58), and Mark Jainier Chavez (3:32.56) and Tsunami Saipan's Kana Suzuki (3:07.75), Sophia Gauran (2:31.88), Isaiah Aleksenko (2:26.83), and Sean Gil (2:59.37).

In the 100m backstroke, Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio was the fastest among the four swimmers who did the two-lap race after submitting 1:17.92. Tenorio also earned a PBT, surpassing his old mark of 1:20.57.

Two more Tsunami Saipan members got PBTs in the 100m backstroke with Aika Watanabe recording 1:23.43 (from 1:24.79) and Hans Xu registering 1:25.42 (from 1:27.13). Taiga Sato of SSC was the fourth swimmer to mark a PBT in the event after checking in at 1:20.84 (from 1:24.11).

In the 100m butterfly race, four SSC bets achieved PBTs. Kento Akumaru was one of them and had the fastest PBT with his 1:04.23 (from 1:05.01). David Boyer tallied 1:09.76 to break his old PBT (1:12.08), while Welch and Andrei Kaith Lynn Chavez had the same feats after recording 1:11.31 (from 1:19.66) and 1:53.52 (from 1:58.59), respectively.

As for Tsunami Saipan's side, Ashley Dangol's 1:18.53 eclipsed her previous PBT of 1:19.61. Her brother, Aasish also got a PBT (1:32.00) along with Nelson Batallones (1:14.94).

There were 17 events scheduled in NMISF's season-opening meet and results of the other events will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* this week.

Over 50 swimmers joined the first competition of the season and NMISF would like to thank its board members and the parents/family members of swimmers from both clubs for making the event possible.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Boston	93	68	.578	—
Toronto	88	73	.547	5
Baltimore	88	73	.547	5
New York	84	77	.522	9
Tampa Bay	67	94	.416	26
Central Division				
x-Cleveland	93	67	.581	—
Detroit	86	74	.538	7
Kansas City	81	80	.503	12½
Chicago	78	83	.484	15½
Minnesota	58	103	.360	35½
West Division				
x-Texas	95	66	.590	—
Seattle	86	75	.534	9
Houston	84	77	.522	11
Los Angeles	73	88	.453	22
Oakland	68	93	.422	27

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Washington	94	67	.584	—
y-New York	87	74	.540	7
Miami	79	81	.494	14½
Philadelphia	70	91	.435	24
Atlanta	67	93	.419	26½
Central Division				
x-Chicago	102	58	.638	—
St. Louis	85	76	.528	17½
Pittsburgh	78	82	.488	24
Milwaukee	72	89	.447	30½
Cincinnati	68	93	.422	34½
West Division				
x-Los Angeles	91	70	.565	—
San Francisco	86	75	.534	5
Colorado	75	86	.466	16
Arizona	68	93	.422	23
San Diego	68	93	.422	23

x-clinched division y-clinched wild card

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	3	0	0	1.000	81	45
N.Y. Jets	1	2	0	.333	62	78
Buffalo	1	2	0	.333	71	68
Miami	1	3	0	.250	71	89
South						
Houston	2	1	0	.667	42	53
Indianapolis	1	2	0	.333	81	95
Tennessee	1	2	0	.333	42	57
Jacksonville	0	3	0	.000	54	84
North						
Baltimore	3	0	0	1.000	57	44
Pittsburgh	2	1	0	.667	65	66
Cincinnati	2	2	0	.500	78	82
Cleveland	0	3	0	.000	54	84
West						
Denver	3	0	0	1.000	84	57
Kansas City	2	1	0	.667	69	49
Oakland	2	1	0	.667	80	79
San Diego	1	2	0	.333	87	73

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	3	0	0	1.000	92	27
Dallas	2	1	0	.667	77	60
N.Y. Giants	2	1	0	.667	63	61
Washington	1	2	0	.333	68	92
South						
Atlanta	2	1	0	.667	104	91
Tampa Bay	1	2	0	.333	70	101
Carolina	1	2	0	.333	76	70
New Orleans	0	3	0	.000	79	96
North						
Minnesota	3	0	0	1.000	64	40
Green Bay	2	1	0	.667	75	67
Detroit	1	2	0	.333	81	85
Chicago	0	3	0	.000	45	83
West						
Los Angeles	2	1	0	.667	46	63
Seattle	2	1	0	.667	52	37
San Francisco	1	2	0	.333	73	83
Arizona	1	2	0	.333	79	63

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

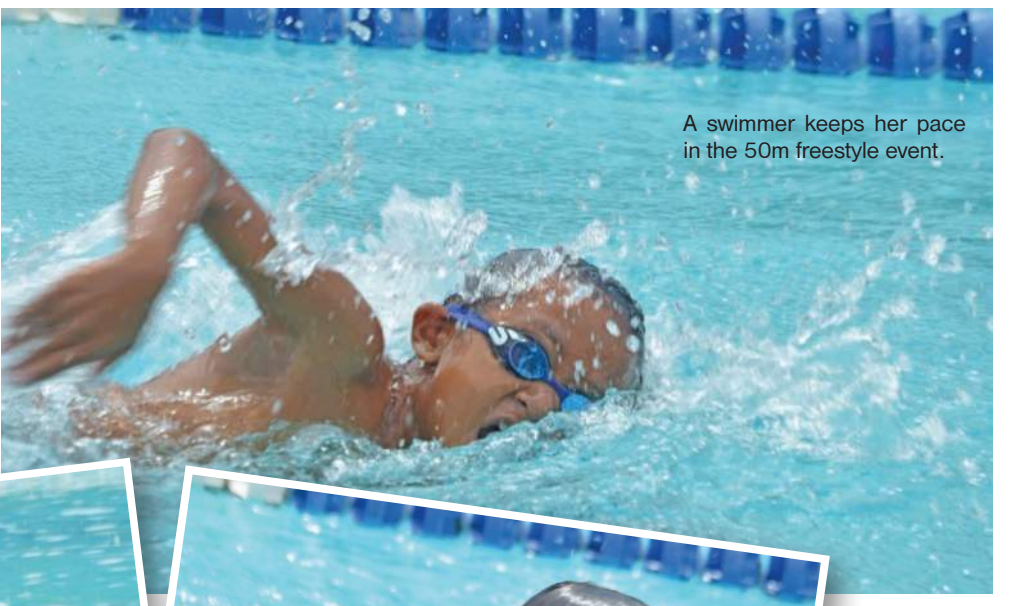
NMISF Opening Meet

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Swim Club head coach Jacoby Winkfield talks to his swimmers before the start of the relay races in last Saturday's NMISF Opening Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Swimmers plunge into the pool during the 50m freestyle race.

Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero swims in the 50m freestyle event.



A swimmer keeps her pace in the 50m freestyle event.

Saipan Swim Club's Lennosuke Suzuki does the backstroke of the 200m individual medley event.

Saipan Swim Clubs' Taiyo Akimaru does the butterfly of the 200m individual medley event

Timers get ready as a swimmer is about to complete the 50m breaststroke event.

Two swimmers are in a tight race in the 50m breaststroke.

Americans take 3-point lead at Ryder Cup

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Mets beat Phillies to clinch top NL wild card

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2 semis appearances for Lee

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI junior player Carol Lee earned semis berths in the singles and doubles events in the Auckland ITF Indoor Championships 2016.

Lee barged into the semis round of the 48-player singles field after surviving New Zealand's Oleksandra Kalachova in a three-set game last Friday at the Scarbro Tennis Centre in Auckland, New Zealand. The 14-year-old Lee lost the opening set of their quarterfinal match, 2-6, but stayed in the game after working out a 6-3 victory in the second set. The third-ranked Lee went on to complete the come-from-behind win after pulling off a 7-6 victory in the deciding third set against the No. 5 seed Kiwi.

The Commonwealth bet's triumph over Kalachova was her first three-set match in the ITF Juniors ranking tournament. Lee, earlier in the first and second rounds, swept New Zealand's Amelia Lawson, 6-3, 6-1, and Australia's Kirijana Petreski, 6-0, 6-1.

With her third straight win, Lee took the semis berth at the lower half of the draw and was pitted against second-ranked Ashleigh Harvey of New Zea-

See LEE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee, seen here in the Saipan-hosted ITF event this year, made it to the semifinals of the singles and doubles event in the Auckland ITF Indoor Championships 2016 held in New Zealand last week.

Good start for SSC, Tsunami swimmers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club and Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan members got off to a good start as they combined for 22 personal best times in the first four events held during the Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation Opening Meet last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Ten PBTs were recorded in the 200m freestyle event, while seven were made in the 100m butterfly—the first of a series of races NMISF scheduled to kick off the 2016-2017 season. In the two other events out of the first four, four PBTs were registered in the 100m backstroke and one in the 200m breaststroke.

Christian Villacrusis of SSC logged the lone PBT in the 200m breaststroke after breaking the three-minute barrier with his 2:58.53, about four seconds better than his old mark (3:02.88).

The 16-year-old Villacrusis also posted one of the 10 PBTs in the 200m freestyle event. His 2:16.56 surpassed the 2:20.15 he made in the previous season. The Mt. Carmel School student's time in last weekend's meet was also the fastest among the 17 swimmers who did the 200m freestyle.

Another SSC bet—Salofi Welch—had the second best time in the 200m freestyle af-

See SSC on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Two swimmers are in a close race in the 50m breaststroke event in last Saturday's NMISF Opening Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

MGNEL outlasts 5-Star in overtime

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MGNEL Construction finally got its first victory in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League slipping past 5-Star Construction in overtime, 90-88, last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ferrick Aguon, who muffed several free throws in regulation, made up for his misses in the closing seconds of the extra period as he hit a split and later banked in a layup that gave MGNEL the insurance basket and their first win after a 0-3 start. 5-Star dropped to a 1-2 card, failing to complete a come-from-behind victory despite overhauling a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter.

5-Star sent the match in overtime, thanks to Michael Cabanas' buzzer-beating triple from the right key. The equalizer came after Aguon had a split and gave MGNEL with a precarious 3-point cushion, 76-73, 10 seconds left in regulation. Aguon faltered on his second free throw attempt, while Jorge De Guzman went for the rebound, but could not control the ball, as Jestoni Pineda reached in and successfully stole the possession.

With the clock ticking down, Pineda ran to their frontcourt and seemed ready to fire from downtown, but decided to make an extra pass to Cabanas, who was left open for triple that brought the game into overtime.

In the extra five minutes of play, the game remained close with Don Teregeyo breaking another deadlock with his up-and-under move, 86-84, less than a minute left in the game.

A split free throw from Jeff Munar on the other end kept 5-Star in the game, 85-86, while Cabanas gave up a quick foul on Aguon to stop

See MGNEL on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MGNEL Construction's Don Teregeyo pulls up for a shot against 5-Star Construction's Zack Babauta, left, and Ariel Cabigting, right, during the fourth quarter of their game in the MIBF outdoor caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.